

12-5-2019

## The Observer

Central Washington University

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# The Observer

By the students For the students

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Samantha Cabeza/The Observer

Students and community members gathered outside of Kittitas County Superior Court November 13. Activists protest the city's contract with ICE every Wednesday.

## Students protest ICE contract

Nicholas Tucker  
News Editor

The national conversation about immigration enforcement is still loud and ongoing in Ellensburg, a town over one thousand miles away from the US-Mexico border. The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office maintains a contract with federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents to house ICE detainees at the Kittitas County Corrections Center before sending them to the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. This has rallied protest from many immigrant support organizations both on and off the CWU campus.

This contract between the sheriff's office and ICE was outlawed by the Washington State Legislature in May when the Keep Washington Working Act was passed. Under the act, the

county must end the contract by December 31, 2021, but many pro-immigrant demonstrators expressed hopes that Former Kittitas County Sheriff Gene Dana would cancel the contract before retiring in October. However, Dana announced his intention to uphold the contract.

"We're bound by federal law to comply with laws set by Congress," Dana said to Northwest Public Broadcasting. "I'm kind of stuck in the middle — federal law, congress saying 'this is what you need to do and here's the guidelines, and we're complying with them.'"

Sheriff Clay Myers who succeeded Dana has stated that under his leadership the contract would remain in place until a different decision is made on the federal level. This is in an effort to maintain consistency between the immigration enforcement policies of all levels of government.

"Our federal government, our state government, our local governments are supposed to work together that's why we have public representation and when they work together, things usually work pretty well," Myers said to The Daily Record. "If they're battling, all it does is create a greater venue for the bad guys, and that's where our concern is."

In reaction to the continuation of the contract, CWU students are protesting every Wednesday in front of the Kittitas County Courthouse. Sheila Avila is a leader of the protests and one of the co-presidents for Movimiento Estudiantil Chinano/o de Aztlan (ME-ChA), a national organization which promotes the unity and empowerment of Latinx students.

## BOT student proposed defunding student media immediately

Kyle Wilkinson  
Photography Editor

The CWU Board of Trustees' student representative Alex Harrington proposed the complete and immediate defunding of student media at the Nov. 20 Services and Activities (S&A) meeting if the student media faculty advisers do not offer "acceptable" solutions to the conflict that has developed between The Observer, Central News Watch and certain administrative units of CWU. Harrington read a resolution draft into the record.

Harrington said he didn't believe media outlets were adhering to their purpose on campus and using their funds appropriately by publishing what he said was "false" information.

Harrington, a senior political science major, was appointed to this position by Governor Jay Inslee and his term will run through June 2020. He has worked as an office assistant for the Dean of Students and is a voting member on the Services and Activities Fee Committee, the Student Conduct Council and the Election Commission.

In regards to the Board of Trustees, Harrington is a full voting member "on all issues except matters related to hiring or discipline of personnel, tenure of faculty, and collective bargaining agreements," according to CWU's website.

On Nov. 6, The Observer published an editorial outlining issues of content regulation and censorship by some departments on campus. Following the release of the editorial and a corresponding protest, staff members from The Observer and Central News Watch met with CWU administration and ASCWU to discuss a potential solution on Nov. 18.

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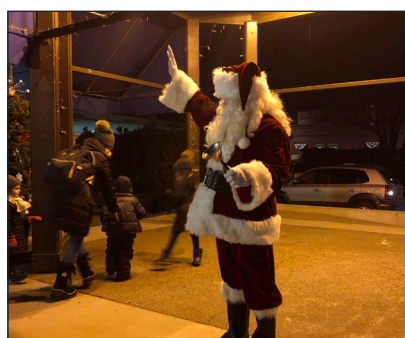
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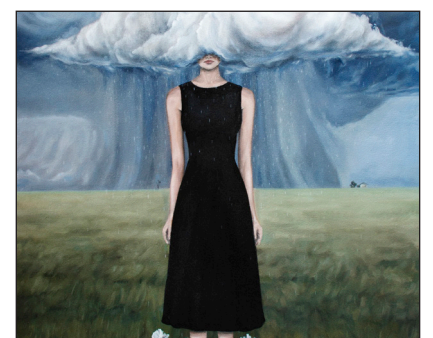
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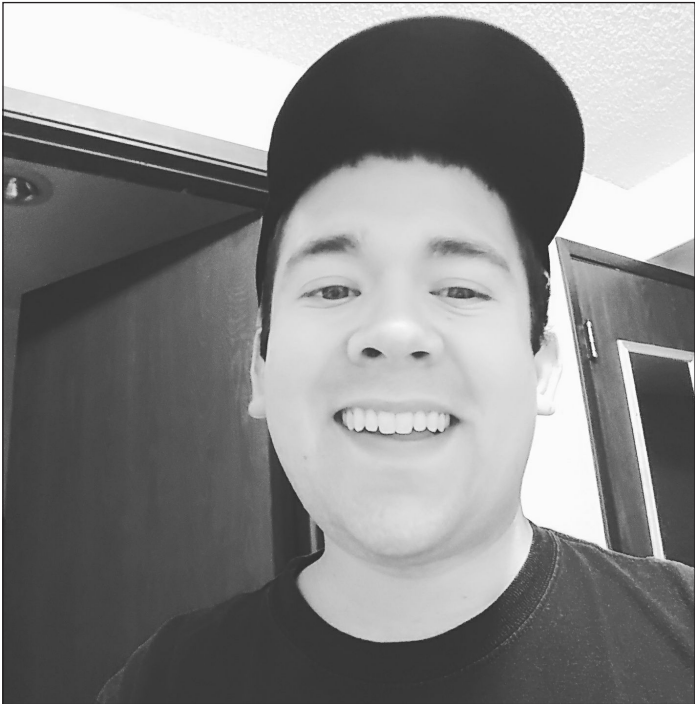
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Editor: Nicholas Tucker

# The Observer will always remember Ben Wheeler



## Alexa Murdock

Former Managing Editor

I had the honor of working alongside Ben at The Observer and in many journalism classes at CWU.

Whether he was pitching a wild story about searching for rattlesnakes in the outskirts of Ellensburg or covering the latest events in CWU sports, Ben was always right in the middle of the action and loved to share his experiences with others.

He was a talented storyteller and used his skills to connect people through his powerful and emotional writing. In person, Ben's fun-loving personality and unique sense of humor could light up a room within minutes.

Ben could turn even the most boring night in the newsroom into a great time by making everyone laugh with his cheesy puns and quick wit. His can-do attitude and willingness to lend a hand whenever possible was an inspiration. Although I only had the opportunity to work with Ben for a short time, he will truly be missed.

## Mariah Valles

Online Editor

Goofy, passionate, talented. These are words easily used to describe Ben Wheeler. Ben was quiet but detailed. He remembered the little things. He loved writing movie reviews and they were often so detailed that we had to cut words so they'd fit on the page.

I worked with Ben closely during his time as The Observer's Online Editor.

I always told him he was doing a much better job at being the online editor than I did. Ben was humble. He always asked how to improve and would work diligently at doing so.

Ben's humor was one-of-a-kind. He didn't send many messages in the staff group chat, but when he did, they always included some sort of joke. Some of us even gave him the nickname of being the "pun-master."

He took to newsroom chaos very well for being a shy person. He interjected himself into conversations and helped out wherever he could. He always stepped up to live cover events or write extra movie reviews.

I'm thankful for the time Ben was on The Observer staff. In our final conference, Ben mentioned wanting to start a podcast. I hope that you're able to do that now, Ben, you deserve it. Thank you for the mark you've left on the newspaper and our lives. We'll miss you, friend.

## Sean Quinn

Former Staff Reporter

Ben Wheeler was a tremendously gifted individual with a great knack for movies and sports.

I first met Ben in my introduction to writing and reporting class at CWU a few years back. I sat next to him and enjoyed our many conversations about the Seattle Seahawks, the latest great movie, and of course, our many written assignments.

We'd end up seeing each other frequently in Lind or Black Hall. As the months and classes passed, I enjoyed many other classes with Ben, including Terri Reddout's visual storytelling class.

One of my favorite assignments was recording a Facebook Live about any topic we liked. Ben and I did ours on the Seahawks' picks in the 2018 NFL Draft. There was such a great chemistry between us. You almost could have put us on ESPN's Sportscenter and we would have killed it.

For such a small frame, he had one of the biggest hearts I've ever come across in my lifetime. I'm going to miss you Ben. You were an amazing friend. Now, you got the best seat in the house for the Seahawks.

## The Observer Staff

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**Scene Editor:** Mary Park

**Sports Editor:** Nick Jahnke

**Photo Editor:** Kyle Wilkinson

**Copy Desk Chief & Opinion Editor:** TyYonna Kitchen

**Online Editor:** Mariah Valles

**Lead Graphic Designer:** Aiden Knabel

**Assistant Graphic Designer:** Teagan Kimbro

**Senior Sports Reporter:** Austin Lane

**Editorial Policy:** The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. The mission of The Observer is two-fold: to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large; and to be the best source of information, education and entertainment news. As a training program, The Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values and skills needed to succeed in their chosen career. If you have questions or concerns, email us at [cwuobserver@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserver@gmail.com).

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Editor: Nicholas Tucker

# BOT student rep. proposes defunding student media



Courtesy of CWU  
CWU Student Board of Trustees Alex Harrington.

## Continued from Page 1

"It came to light that a lot of the information in the articles that were published, were false," Harrington said during the Nov. 20 S&A meeting.

Harrington went on to say that student media was aware the information was false before it was published and that the consensus between all parties at the meeting with student media, administration and ASCWU was that there was no censorship in these instances.

"We could not come to a consensus about student media publishing the fact that there was no censorship even though we came to the consensus that there was no censorship," Harrington said.

"If they had that information, decided

to publish it, then to me that shows a pretty deliberate and malicious attempt to kind of misrepresenting the actions and statements of individuals within the campus community," Harrington said.

"The Observer and Central News Watch never agreed that there was no censorship," Online Editor Mariah Valles said in a Nov. 19 Yakima Herald article. "There do not need to be corrections on our previous reporting."

According to the S&A website, The Observer annually receives \$54,061 and Central News Watch receives \$10,000.

S&A Board member Joseph Bryant pointed out that the committee cannot make decisions based on the content student media publishes. Student media are protected by solid press freedom laws, he said, recalling the legal advice provided to him by the assistant attorney general for the State of Washington.

"I would be very intentional on our end to avoid any parts of content factoring into this for issues of not only [that] this could very absolutely be viewed as censorship of student media if we were to cut funding based on us not liking the content of an article," Bryant said. "Or it could also be viewed as retaliatory by the university or by the committee."

Bryant again stated that the S&A Committee would not be the correct place to address these issues on campus.

"I think it's totally acceptable for us to be able to ask student media to come and answer questions as it relates to the spending of their allocation or is in line with what was being said," Bryant said. "However, our purview would not be on the content of what is being published and posted there."

Members of the committee also raised concerns about the specific wording of Harrington's resolution. Lacy Lampkins, who advises the S&A Committee about the use of student funds, pointed out the delicateness of the words "misused funds." Lampkins also said student journalists do not have a say in where funds are allocated.

"We fund The Observer to print the newspaper. So are we questioning how they're spending the money to print the newspaper?" Lampkins said.

One of the board members, music professor Martin Kennedy, asked about the seriousness of using the word "malicious" instead of "negligence" when Harrington referred to student media's "malice" in its reporting.

"There are a lot of words I use, but malicious, that perks my ears up when you said that," Kennedy said. "'Malicious' is a different thing."

S&A Parliamentarian Eric Bennett requested that the committee not speak further on this topic until after the new year because he felt it sounded like retaliation against students.

"By us taking their funding away, we're basically ending their production and that, in my mind, is censorship," Bennett said.

Harrington recognized that students in media ultimately have no say in how their funds are allocated.

"It's not like we would bring in students," Harrington said. "They have no bearing over the overarching mission of the organizations or their funding or anything like that. It is more of a question of the general mission of what we are funding and how we're funding it."

Those in attendance of the S&A meeting

decided to hold off on discussing the matter further until January.

In an interview on Dec. 4, Harrington stood by the resolution he submitted during the S&A meeting on Nov. 20. He connected the defunding of student media to the overarching struggle of student loan debt and fees. Harrington said he was concerned that student media wasn't actually providing a service to students by deliberately publishing material that he claims is known to be false.

"As students who are contributing fees to a fund like S&A, my perspective is that we are essentially shareholders," Harrington said.

Harrington wants to bring the student media business manager and advisers into a meeting to discuss possible solutions for the issue. These individuals will be asked to attend an S&A funding meeting in January. He also said that he's heard very little from staff, and that a student-led conversation would be valuable.

S&A is currently working with a subcommittee that would initiate contact with students to hear their views on various issues with S&A.

Harrington addressed student media's goal to provide content that related to students and campus. The issue stems from the lack of publishing accurate material that benefited students, according to Harrington.

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**Editor's Note: The Observer stands by the accuracy of its previous reporting on the content regulation issues first outlined for its readers in the Nov. 7 issue.**

# Charities serving Kittitas County

Amy Morris

Staff Reporter

As the holidays approach, there are many organizations in Ellensburg that take donations. Donations are an important part of nonprofits because they provide the resources to carry out their mission. Hopesource, Habitat for Humanity and the Friends and Services for Humanity (FISH) are all some of the organizations in Kittitas County that rely on donations.

Hopesource assists low income and homeless people, according to Hopesource's Support Services Supervisor Tiffany Metzger.

"We help people move forward. We are not here to save the day or be saviors," Metzger said. "We are here to walk alongside people to help them get back on their feet."

Housing is one of the organization's main programs. There are programs that can help people get into housing through payments, deposits and many other ways depending on each individual's needs and their eligibility.

Energy assistance is a service Hopesource provides which helps especially in the winter because people are using their heaters more. There is a new program that helps youth who are unaccompanied minors or people up to the age of 24 years old if they are homeless. There are grants specifically for them, depending on their eligibility, to help youth get into housing, work and health care, among other things.

Hopesource also runs a veterans' program that assists veterans that may be homeless or facing homelessness to keep them housed and healthy. There is a newer program called Aging in Place that helps elders in need of just a couple tools to remain in their homes, such as safety bars in the bathroom or non slip surfaces on the floors.

There is also Hope University which is a community education program. Money management, energy conservation and stress management are some of the workshops available.

"My favorite part of the community education is getting people in the community together so that they can speak on these topics in a comfortable, informational environment," Metzger said.

Central Transit is staffed through Hopesource, and the service is free for everyone. Some people are eligible for the driver ride service that comes right to the person's house and drops them off at the specific location they need to go to.

People can give back to Hopesource by making money donations or giving to the food pantry in Cle Elum, Washington, where their food bank is located.

"Donations are important to fund programs. It makes it so that we can help more people," Metzger said. "The more we have, the more we can give."

Another important organization in the community is FISH. FISH is the only food bank in Kittitas County and also has a food pantry and meal service program called Open Table. FISH has been around for almost 50 years, according to Executive Director Peggy Morache.

The food bank distributes food throughout the five food pantries in the county. FISH receives food from the government and then warehouses and delivers it. FISH has been doing that for the last 15 years. FISH distributes approximately a million pounds of food a year through the food bank. The food pantry serves around 14,000 individuals every year through the Ellensburg pantry which includes around 2,000 students from CWU, according to Morache.

The food pantry usually starts seeing stu-

dents around April to the end of the school year. FISH has a partnership with Presidents United to Solve World Hunger (PUSH), and Morache is on the PUSH committee and advises students on the PUSH food pantry.

Picnic in the Park is a program by FISH that serves around 7,000-8,000 meals to students in the summer. This program is designed for K-12 students who would usually get their meals through the school system.

People can give back to FISH by volunteering, doing food drives, donating money and spreading the word about who FISH is, what they do and who they serve.

"If someone has been served by FISH, has been helped by FISH, one of the greatest ways they can give back is by telling the community that they live here, they work here and they were helped by FISH," Morache said.

Habitat for Humanity is another important organization in Kittitas County. It is an affiliate to Habitat for Humanity International, a global nonprofit that provides affordable housing solutions in over 70 countries, according to Executive Director Linda Kelly.

They have built 19 homes in Kittitas County so far. Habitat for Humanity also does critical home repairs, which they have done six of. When someone can not afford to hire a contractor to make a major repair to their home, Habitat for Humanity can do that with a zero-interest loan, according to Kelly.

Habitat for Humanity runs off of mostly volunteers and takes roughly around 3,500 hours to build a house. A big misconception about Habitat for Humanity is that they give houses away for free, but that is not the case, according to Kelly.

The houses are built specifically for a family's needs and is then sold to them. The person buying the house also has to attend home ownership education classes along



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer  
Julian Sanderson sorts through a cart of recent donations in the FISH warehouse. He puts them into crates with similar foods to later be taken to the pantry.

with budgeting and financial management classes so that they will be able to keep up with their mortgage. Along with that the person purchasing the house has to contribute around 300-500 hours of volunteer work to build their own house.

Ways people can give back to Habitat for Humanity is by volunteering at the store or building site or donating money or items.

"If you donate you are a tangible part of helping a family get into a forever home," Kelly said. "It is a way we can all work together for the collective good to help people who need the assistance and who want to have a forever home."



# Aviation program moved to Yakima after summer

Story by Nicholas Tucker and Mariah Valles | Photos obtained from public records | Design by Aiden Kna-

On June 24, a CWU Aviation Department plane received damage that campus officials and police originally thought was caused by a bullet. The flight was unaffected and the student pilot reporting to CWU police said he did not know about the damage until he was called by Chief Flight Instructor Richard Bates. Now, after the completion of a crime analysis report, it has been determined it was not a bullet that hit the propeller. Due to this conclusion, the FBI did not investigate and all operations were restored at Bowers Field in Ellensburg at the end of July.

According to public records obtained by The Observer, which covered from June until Sept. 19, the aircraft with tail number N540CW was flying northwest of Bowers Field when a high-velocity projectile hit and pierced one of its propeller blades.

The report for this incident filed by CWU Police says that then Aviation Department Chair Greg Schwab described the damage as a “high impact strike, not a rock.” A mechanic later added that he thought it was a high velocity impact and speculated that it could have been a bullet strike.

An email sent on June 27 by CWU Chief of Staff Linda Schactler to the Dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, Paul Ballard, mentioned that damage analysis at the state crime lab was not yet complete, but that the strike was almost definitely caused by a bullet.

At the time, officers from the CWU Police Department and the Kittitas County Sheriff’s Department whom CWU Chief of Police Jason Berthon-Koch considered ballistics experts had no doubt that a bullet, not a rock, struck and pierced the propeller.

At the immediate approval of CWU President James L. Gaudino, all aviation program flights were grounded while administration and aviation department officials decided how flight operations would temporarily continue.

## Options

Emails between university and aviation department officials transitioned into discussing potential actions they could take moving forward.

A meeting took place on June 27 between Schwab, Schactler, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs Joel Klucking, Vice President of Public Affairs Krechiere Jackson, and Berthon-Koch. The five attendees discussed three potential options for how to move forward.

The first would be to continue normal flight operations with no major changes other than to avoid the northwestern area of the Kittitas Valley. The second was to modify takeoff and landing patterns to avoid the northwest, conducting touch and goes in Moses Lake and Yakima instead of at Bowers Field. The third option was to move all CWU aviation program operations to Moses Lake or Yakima.

Dozens of aviation students had already paid for summer flights and were expecting to complete those flights, including the check rides they needed to graduate.

As of July 3, five CWU Aviation Department planes and their support systems were moved to the McAllister Field in Yakima.

“We had a whole bunch of students here, over 100 students here that needed to fly and finish their courses,” Ballard said. “We only had a couple of planes down there so not everybody could be moved down there and so I think it was those the biggest need to finish on time [that were relocated].”

With a broad decision made, administration needed to figure out the logistics of moving the aviation program for the summer. With those planes came the need for hangar and classroom spaces, maintenance procedures and personnel, and transportation for students to and from Yakima. Schwab described the scale and complexity of the move by saying it “sounds like a military deployment.”

“We had to do our due diligence and mitigate any kind of risk that might be out there for students,” Ballard said. “And before we could safely say that students could go up there, we had to be sure that it was not a bullet.”

After an analysis of the damaged plane’s flight path, Bates proposed that the program be moved back to Ellensburg. Restrictions were put in place for flight paths and altitude in the area northeast of Bowers Field where the potential shot would have likely come from.

Following the report from the Kittitas County Sheriff’s office confirming that the damage was likely caused by a rock or other debris on the ground and not from a bullet, the program returned to normal operations.



# ved to incident



Originally thought to be a bullet, this is the damage done to the propeller mid-flight. Kitt. Co. sheriff's office confirmed it was caused by rock or debris.





Editor: Nicholas Tucker

# Tobacco age limit raised to 21

Will Ortner

Staff Reporter

On April 5 Gov. Jay Inslee signed a law that raised the age restriction of buying tobacco products to 21 years old. This law, Engrossed House Bill 1074, would go into effect on Jan. 1 2020. Inslee believes that this is a way to keep young adults from smoking tobacco products.

"We know that 95% of smokers start that dangerous behavior before age 21. This bill is going to save thousands of lives in the state of Washington," Inslee said at the bill's signing.

The ban also affects vape products and e-cigarettes by raising the age that people can buy them to 21 as well. There is still a ban on flavored vape products until February that is not nullified by the tobacco age raise. The flavored vape ban is a limited ban. However, the ban could become permanent if legislators vote to continue it.

The Washington State Department of Health (WSDOH) has backed Gov. Inslee's positions on both the raising of the tobacco age limit and the banning of flavored vape products. The state has found that most people start using tobacco before the age of 21.

The WSDOH believe that by raising the age limits that they can stop kids from starting the habit and getting addicted.

"Nearly all people who smoke begin smoking before age 21 — while their brains

are particularly vulnerable to nicotine addiction," The WSDOH said. "Raising the legal age of sale will help protect young people by preventing them from getting tobacco and vapor products from peers who are 18, 19, or 20 year olds.

Tobacco can be an addictive and dangerous drug that has been known to be used by many students who are under the age of 21, according to the WSDOH. After a 2018 study, the department of health found that one in five 10th graders and one in three 12th graders had used tobacco vapor products in the past.

Gov. Inslee and the WSDOH hope that the raise in age restriction coupled with the ban on flavored vape products will stop Washington students from trying these products. Another added benefit that both the governor and the WSDOH hope for, is that these bans will keep 18-year-old high schoolers from giving tobacco products to their under-age friends in high school.

The raise in age will also lead to punishments handed out to stores that sell tobacco products to people who are under the age limit. Tobacco kills over 8,000 Washingtonians every year according to the WSDOH, and the state is trying is also trying to help people quit smoking along with the age raise restrictions.

The WSDOH has a program called The Washington State Department of

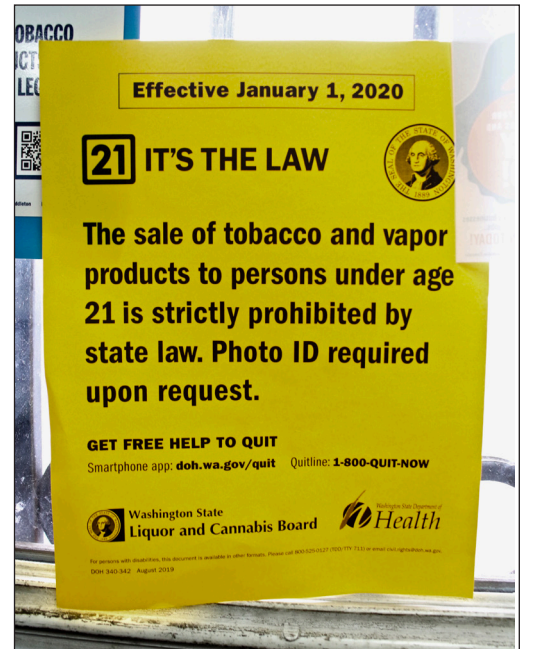
Health's Tobacco and Vapor Product Prevention and Control Program (TVPPCP) that tries to help people quit using tobacco products. The TVPPCP also helps keep kids under age from starting the dangerous habit.

The TVPPCP has a resume of helping people who want to quit smoking get rid of their habit. The TVPPCP found that the number of adults who smoke went from 898,000 in 2011 to 764,000 in 2017. The website also found that between 2012 to 2018 there was a drop of 22,000 of high school smokers.

The TVPPCP still claims that tobacco is one of the leading causes of preventable deaths in the country despite all of their best efforts. They believe, however, that the vapor industry has helped increase the number of people who use vapor products.

The TVPPCP has found a 10% increase in high school seniors who have started to smoke vapor products in the past two years. They also found that there was a 4% increase in eighth graders and an 8% increase with 10th graders over those two years as well.

The TVPPCP believes that the age increase will continue the decrease we see in the number of people who smoke tobacco.



Photos by Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer



## Central Park

APARTMENTS

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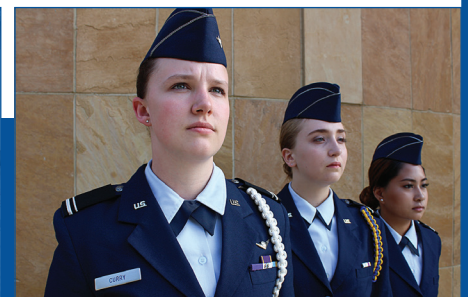
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Editor: Nicholas Tucker

# CWU janitors sweeping the streets

AJ St. John

Staff Reporter

Custodial workers are part of the CWU crew. These workers dedicate their time to ensure that the campus remains clutter free as students carry on throughout their busy days. Although custodians mainly work indoors, the service workers at CWU also maintain the landscape at CWU, keeping the school clean inside and out.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the estimated need for custodial workers will increase by 7% in the next decade. This particular job outlook is larger than the average. There is on the job training and no formal education requirements for people that pursue a career as a custodial worker. Also according to the bureau, many new jobs are expected in industries such as administrative and support services, educational services and healthcare.

Don Sodergren is 75 years old. Sodergren worked for Boeing, but chose to work as something he finds more enjoyable. Sodergren enjoys the college atmosphere which is part of the reason why he worked after retiring from Boe-

ing. He will be retiring from the CWU crew February 2020, although he did say he was going to use the rest of vacation hours and will be gone the month of January. Sodergren and his wife Jewel have been featured in many news articles. One of the articles they were featured in was the Yakima-Herald, which highlighted their 52-year-long marriage. Sodergren also mentioned that his wife had been interviewed before for ghost stories.

Dale Hubbard, custodial lead and former "DJ of the Year" has been working for CWU for 24 years. Hubbard graduated from CWU in 1989 and majored in communications and music, with a master's in public administration. He knows how to play the trumpet and guitar, but was mainly a vocal major. Hubbard also worked for The Observer at one point. He prefers working in the first year residence halls because of the energy. It allows everyone to get to know everybody around campus, get to know the campus and build social skills.

"Having a freshman dorm, is killer," Hubbard said.



Courtesy of Dale Hubbard



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer

(Above) Kristin Hylinger, a former CWU student, sweeps the steps of Hebel Hall on a winter morning.  
(Top left) Dale Hubbard has been working at CWU for 24 years. He works in residence halls because he enjoys interacting with first year students that are full of the excitement that goes along with starting college.  
(Top right) Don Sodergren, who works in Barge Hall, plans to retire at the end of the year from CWU.

According to Hubbard, first years will meet people that they will know for the rest of their lives. Hubbard is from Ellensburg, and his mother is a former CWU employee. He enjoys being able to take any class for next to nothing.

Hubbard can be seen greeting students as they enter their residence hall. The activity and student interactions are part of what makes the job enjoyable for Hubbard. He describes himself as hyper so his work fits his personality. Hubbard mentioned that people will find custodial workers to be that way. He also mentions that interactions with students is something that he has enjoyed.

Custodian Kristin Hylinger, a former CWU student, enjoys working in this environment. As a student, she had built her own major to study multicultural humanities. Before she became a custodial worker, Hylinger spent her time dancing and was part of a troupe. Part of her reason for joining the facilities services is that she enjoys the medical and dental insurance that the school provides for the custodians. According to Hylinger, custodians are able to take care of the

students because the school takes good care of their workers. Hylinger just asks students to throw their gum in the trash and not to write on the desks. Because of the type of work she does, according to Hylinger, the work can be arduous. She mentioned that the most difficult buildings for her to clean are the ones with the most foot traffic.

"I love working here, I appreciate my employers for taking care of me," Hylinger said. "Just being in a university environment, folks tend to be more open minded."

The appreciation of the students means a lot to Hylinger. Receiving thoughts and gratitude for the type of work she completes creates an environment she likes to work in. Putting a face to the custodial workers gives students a way to realize that there are people that take care of the buildings on campus, according to Hylinger. Hylinger's dream commute is showing up to work, while the sun comes up, and starting her shift at 5 a.m. She enjoys seeing the sun come up and leaving work at 1:30 p.m. This way she still has daylight left by the end of her shift.



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Editor: Mary Park

# From Marines to theatre



Photo Courtesy of Garret Deffert

Garret Deffert, in March 2012, after a long mission in the Northern Helmand Province of Afghanistan. Deffert served in the United States Marine Corps for about 10 years before his medical retirement in December 2013.

## Mary Park

Scene Editor

At the scene shop in McConnell Hall, you can smell sawdust, see pieces of wood scattered around the room and hear heavy footsteps on the paint-splotted floor. Oftentimes, the shrill grinding of an electric hand saw fills the room.

Garret Deffert is the master carpenter for the production of “Holiday Inn,” which opens on Dec. 5. Among other tasks, Deffert cuts out hearts and cherry blossoms from wooden boards for the stage set.

“This is what I do every day,” Deffert said with a smile. “I [enjoy] the controlled chaos, being out-of-my-mind busy. Using my imagination and working with my hands is one of my favorite things to do.”

The 34-year-old performance BFA student, who stands 6 feet, 1 inch tall and has short dark blonde hair and a tidy beard, will graduate Magna Cum Laude in December 2019.

Scene shop manager Dave Barnett said Deffert is a good leader who has grown over the two years he had worked with him.

“I will definitely miss him when he goes, he’s been a very good worker,” Barnett said. “He’s grown by leaps and bounds, as it usually happens here. They get really good and then they leave ... They’re ready to spread their wings and fly.”

Besides working in the shop, Deffert has a full weekly schedule going to class, learning about movement, ballet or tap

dance, memorizing his lines and rehearsing for a show or spending hours doing a character analysis.

Pursuing a degree in theatre and working as a performer have been Deffert’s lifelong passion and dream.

“Being a storyteller is my entire life right now, that’s what I look forward [to], it’s what gets me up out of bed every day,” Deffert said. “I wake up and get excited to build, to create, whether it’s building for a show or building a character.”

## Time in the Marines

Behind the curtains and underneath the actor’s mask, Deffert is a former Marine sergeant who had served for about 10 years and had been on five overseas deployments.

Deffert had enlisted straight out of high school, after he witnessed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

“I was a junior in high school when 9/11 happened. I watched the second plane hit on my television,” the Washington native said. “And I’ve always been wanting to help other people, I’ve always been wanting to stand against evil.”

After Deffert graduated and got home at 3 a.m. from a late night graduation party, his recruiter picked him up early next morning for Marine Corps Boot Camp in San Diego, California.

“I went through recruit training and went through the school of infantry--infantry training battalion--and then I



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer

Deffert played Doctor Eugene Sorn in a production of “Stupid F##king Bird” in November. According to Deffert, Sorn is a character who just wants to love and see a lot of love in the world.

served with 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines,” Deffert said. “I was with Fox Company for [almost] 4 years.”

During his time in multiple battalions, Deffert had been deployed to Iraq, Japan, Philippines, Djibouti, Jordan and Afghanistan.

Going to different countries expanded his view of the world, which Deffert said was narrow at first, due to his upbringing.

“I was kind of sheltered in that regard culturally when I was a child,” said Deffert, who grew up in both Washington and Oregon. “I lived up in the mountains. I was homeschooled in a log cabin way up in the woods with no electricity, running water, phone, internet or anything. I was shut off from a lot of culture and I had learned a lot of that along the way [during deployments].”

Deffert experienced the various cultures in the places he stayed, whether it was eating yakitori, yakisoba and sushi in Japan or listening to Jordanian locals share about their culture and religion.

## Injury and Medical Retirement

On May 12, 2012, during his fifth and final deployment in Afghanistan, Deffert was injured in a bombing when his group was called out to help another unit that had been ambushed.

The explosion damaged Deffert’s internal organs, including his brain and appendix, the latter of which was removed due to inflammation.

“I was having memory problems, balance problems, my whole body ached all the time,” Deffert said. “I had a lot of damage to muscles, ligaments, bones, basically everywhere on my body.”

Deffert moved in and out of hospitals for a year and a half and spent time in the Wounded Warrior Battalion West before getting medically retired in December 2013.

He feels physically healed on most days, but there are times when he is reminded of back pain, memory problems and of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

“I’ve been seeking help for a long time for it. I’ve been working on getting counseling,” Deffert said. “It gets easier. It was difficult for me to accept at first because there was such a negative stigma on the idea that somebody could have PTSD because in the Marines, you’re not supposed to be weak, you’re supposed to be strong.”

While laying on his hospital bed in Afghanistan, Deffert said he reflected on his life, where he’s been, what he’s done and who he wanted to be.

“I wanted to be somebody that was genuine, open, accepting, really successful, [and] I wanted to be a performer,”

Deffert said. “I started doing a lot of internal reflection, figuring out who I was and how much of that was inspired by culture I was surrounded by in the military, [and] how much of that was inspired by my past, how I was raised.”

## Transition to Theatre

In 2014, Deffert moved to northwest Montana to spend time with his grandmother, who was ill with cancer. He completed an Associates of Arts degree and got heavily involved in theatre at the local Flathead Valley Community College before transferring to CWU in 2017.

Since entering the field, Deffert has had performance and carpentry jobs at prestigious theatre companies in Montana called Bigfork Summer Playhouse and Fort Peck Summer Theatre.

For a “Peter Pan” production at Fort Peck this summer, Deffert was both the pirate Bill Jukes and the primary flight operator for Peter. After his character died, he had to run behind the curtains to pull on the ropes to help Peter fly.

“I love the complex elements ... There’s so much that could go wrong at a moment’s notice, I don’t know what it is, but that’s when I’m the most focused, the most present [and] have the most fun in general,” Deffert said.

Deffert’s also been a part of about 20 film projects produced by the CWU film department. He starred in a short film called “Some Gave All,” directed by CWU film instructor Jon Ward, which can be found on Amazon Prime.

Most recently, Deffert played Eugene Sorn in the recent “Stupid F##king Bird” production by Central Theatre Ensemble.

Patrick Dizney, associate chair of the theatre department who directed the production, said Deffert is completely dedicated to his craft and is everything he could ask for in an actor.

“He comes to me after rehearsals and asks questions,” Dizney said. “He loves it, so he wants to know more, he has a wonderful attitude about it.”

Deffert said it’s exciting to become the first person in his family to hold an undergraduate degree.

“It’s gratifying to finally make it to this point,” Deffert said. “I remember when I first started four, five years ago and it seemed like it would never come, that it would never happen.”

For his next steps, Deffert plans to apply to the University Resident Theatre Association in New York City and the University of Washington’s MFA acting program.



Photo Courtesy of Garret Deffert

Deffert attended the 2012 Marine Corps Ball in Las Vegas. During his 10 years in the Marines, Deffert had been on five overseas deployments to Iraq, Japan, Philippines, Djibouti, Jordan and Afghanistan.



Editor: Mary Park

# Inside the Food Wagon



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

(From left to right) Student workers Shelby Wise, Kit Teer, Elaina Battstone and Food Wagon Manager Carol Secondi work inside the Food Wagon, located outside Barto Hall. The wagon staff recently planned to make a more comfortable outdoor eating space for customers in the colder months.

## Jackson McMurray

Staff Reporter

If you ever find yourself lost in or around Barto Hall, feeling very hungry and slightly adventurous between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on a weekday, there is a school-sanctioned vehicle-based solution for all of your problems just a few feet away.

The Food Wagon, an official CWU food vendor located right outside of Barto Hall, is a place on campus where the school's culinary staff can cut loose and hungry students can enjoy the results.

According to Campus Executive Chef Joe Ritchie and CWU's Catering Chef

and Food Wagon menu planner Darren Macri, the Food Wagon is a place where students are more willing to try new things and eat a wider variety of foods than those available inside the SURC.

"For me the Food Wagon is kind of a creative outlet, you know, I think that you can do things that are a little more risque, a little more creative," Ritchie said. "Right now, we have a lamb stew on [the menu]. If we put lamb stew on the menu at the SURC, we probably wouldn't sell it at all."

The Food Wagon runs with a student staff, which is typically selected from students in the CWU catering program.

According to Macri, working inside a food truck is a stressful job, so it's important to find students who are really passionate about the work they're doing.

Students even get some input on the menu, said Macri, who described the ideas he gets from catering students as "lofty."

"We try to meet in the middle," he said with a chuckle.

The wagon's menu has some perennial dishes, but many are rotated in and out on a quarterly basis. Each rotation introduces appropriate food for the season it's being prepared in.

"Winter quarter we're focusing on soups and stews from all over," Mac-

ri said. "We have tom ka gai, which is a Thai influenced soup, there's the lamb stew, pork pizzaiola [and] chicken chili."

Feedback comes not just from students working in the wagon itself, but also from student customers. The wagon has already finalized its menu for winter and recently gave out food from that menu to students in the Bistro as a sort of test audience.

"That's the students right there," Ritchie said. "We have hits from previous years that we've brought back when students really enjoyed them."

According to Macri and Ritchie, one of the charms of making food for the wagon is that there's less of an emphasis on healthy eating, as opposed to the booths in the SURC, which are more committed to encouraging students to eat wisely.

That said, according to Ritchie, the staff is always working to make sure that the restaurants on campus include vegetarian and gluten-free options, and the Food Wagon is no exception.

According to Food Wagon Supervisor Carol Secondi, who supervises the day-to-day operation inside the truck, there are some changes being planned down the road for the Food Wagon.

The staff recently purchased two outdoor heaters, hoping to create a more comfortable outdoor eating space in the colder months.

The wagon recently adjusted the menus to include more photographs, since not every student is especially confident when confronted with the word "pizzaiola."

According to Secondi, the Food Wagon is typically stationed in front of Barto Hall, but it is often driven to different locations, as it is still a wagon after all. The restaurant gets driven to football games, student orientations, graduations and many other University-sanctioned events throughout the year.

"The response [to our winter menu] was pretty enthusiastic, the things we were giving out," Macri said. "It's a lot more adventurous than you'd see in most areas on campus, it's pretty cool."

# Christmas events on campus

## Pilar Cuevas

Staff Reporter

'Tis the season for Christmas-themed events on campus. Christmas present shopping, live music and crafts are all coming up at the annual Ware Fair and the annual Holiday Extravaganza.

Campus Activities will be hosting the 44th annual Ware Fair, which will be taking place at the SURC from Dec. 5-6 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To volunteer to help vendors, students can sign up through the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE).

The event coordinator is Avery Cortinas, a junior majoring in apparel, textiles and merchandising.

Cortinas remembers watching the event in her freshman year. She said she was intrigued and that her favorite part was that all the items were handmade.

"We go through a process to make sure things are not being resold. But, I think it's really cool to see all the different items that people made," Cortinas said.

Cortinas said the event has grown and become well-known. This year, a new feature to the event is a free gift-wrapping station if you buy products from the event.

"We have a lot of returning vendors and we also attract a lot of new vendors," Cortinas said. "This is a good opportunity for students to sell their products or do some holiday shopping for themselves or for others."

Cortinas mentioned that items that will be sold at this year's Ware Fair include jewelry, ceramics, stickers, drink mixes, body lotions, bath scrubs, animal products, leashes, macaroons and spices.

"There is a really wide variety of different things," Cortinas said. "One item that is really popular is animal sweaters."

With regard to music, Cortinas mentioned that she reached out to groups in the music department such as CWU Horn Club and the CWU Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble.

Cortinas, who is also the president of the Student Fashion Association (SFA), added that clubs and students can sell their products at a discounted rate. She

mentioned that SFA will be selling scrunchies and tote bags at the event.

"Be sure to check it out, all of our vendors are super friendly and passionate about their products. Even if you're not interested in buying something, it's really fun to see what they made," Cortinas said.

Another upcoming event is the 19th annual Holiday Extravaganza hosted by the CLCE. The event will take place on Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the SURC Ballroom. The event will be partnered with D & M Coffee and Domino's Pizza.

The Holiday Extravaganza will be an event for children in kindergarten through fifth grade and their families. The event will consist of a variety of crafts from making snow globes to making origami. The event will also have a photo booth, face painting and hot chocolate will be provided for attendees.

The program leaders for the event are Ruby Nambo, a senior majoring in English education, and Areli Ruiz, a senior majoring in elementary education.

According to Ruiz, 30 craft stations

will be available at the Holiday Extravaganza. She also mentioned that some of the crafts will include stockings, ornaments, bell bracelets and much more.

Ruiz also mentioned that some of the snacks for the kids will be gingerbread houses and gingerbread men with hot chocolate.

According to Ruiz, the event has grown from 25 craft stations to 30 and moved from the SURC Marketplace to the ballroom.

Nambo believes that the mission of the event is for younger children to celebrate the holiday season.

"We're trying to diversify our crafts, honor all the holidays and incorporate a multicultural piece," Nambo said.

Although this event is not for students, Ruiz and Nambo said that students are encouraged to volunteer.

"[Volunteers] get a free shirt. We also provide breakfast like coffee and donuts. Lunch is usually pizza from Domino's," Nambo said.



Editor: Mary Park

# Home is more than holiday decor



**Meghan Rochelle/The Observer**  
*At Collective Interiors, located on East Fourth Avenue and North Pine Street, clients can consult with interior designers and browse different tiles, textures, wallpapers, home decor and more. A floral designer created a frame of faux plants that hangs on the wall to liven up the space.*

**Mary Park**  
*Scene Editor*

Now that the turkey’s eaten (or stored in the fridge) and Plaid Friday shopping’s been done, you can find red and green Santa hats, candy canes, ribbons and strings of lights in just about any public and private space to rush in the festivity.

Decorating homes to make them feel homey and filled with holiday cheer doesn’t have to follow the caricature Christmas icons or the top Pinterest and Instagram trends.

Designers at Collective Interiors said they try to be budget friendly not only for holiday decoration, but also for other design projects by offering a wide range of products.

Collective Interiors is a local interior design studio in downtown Ellensburg with three independent firms sharing space in the same building.

The three designers pitched in their two cents on what it means to design and decorate living spaces for the holidays and beyond.

Stephanie Castillo, owner of Rumble Interiors, said she enjoys decorating her Christmas tree with ornaments that her mother gave her: 1970s painted ceramic Santas, snowmen, and “tons of unicorns.”

“To me, that feels homey, and it makes me nostalgic for when I was little,” Castillo said.

Renee Fyall, owner of D. Marie Interiors, said while she doesn’t do a lot of decorations, she had previously made her own decor with pieces of old barn wood that were stenciled with messages like “be merry” or “happy holidays.”

“I do a lot of stuff that’s natural so like pinecones and tree trimmings,” Fyall said. “I have these cool wreaths that I made, they’re just some simple metal rings and I added greenery and simple ribbons.”

Sam Mikel of Nest Design Studio said in her experience with clients, she has seen older age groups decorate their homes more traditionally while younger generations blend in tradition with trends.

Regarding interior design, Mikel said having a nicely decorated and functional home is not just about having pretty things but also having a sanctuary.

“You’re a happier person [because of your home]. Therefore, it trickles down to you’re happy at work [and] in public,” Mikel said. “If you’re not happy at home, it affects all aspects of your life. So I think it’s crucial to have a space where you can go and be yourself and be comfortable.”

Castillo added that if students don’t have an atmosphere that is conducive to studying in their rooms, it can be hard to focus. Ideally, you should have a nicely set up desk, a comfortable chair, something that motivates you and a drink next to you, she said.

“There’s so much about a home, that if you feel safe and good and comfortable and relaxed in that atmosphere, then you can recharge yourself when you have to go out into the world and come back,” Castillo said.

Mikel talked about how the plethora of images and inspirations on social media can overload people.

“Pinterest and Houzz and Instagram, they’re all wonderful,” Mikel said. “But in my opinion --and I’m on them, I use it--but they can be like a blackhole, where they confuse people more and erase time and energy and money if they’re not used properly.”

Mikel added she prefers to have clients focus on their lifestyle, their home and the way they live, to make design projects achievable.

“Because anything looks good online, but that doesn’t mean it’s for you or your lifestyle,” Mikel said.

Castillo, known at the studio as “queen of social media,” said she enjoys surfing through Pinterest and Instagram.

“I get so many different ideas and I think people are so creative and when they post all these different things, it gives me inspiration so I kind of thrive on seeing all that,” Castillo said.

Castillo also asks her clients to make Pinterest boards on what they like and not like and will use them to guide her work.

“I do think it can get overwhelming, I can’t do everything that’s out there. You can only pick so much stuff, you can pick a little piece from it and everything,” Castillo said.

Fyall said she also gets a lot of inspiration from Instagram and partners with other interior designers and share images with each other on the platform.

Fyall, who receives a lot of referrals for kitchen and bathroom work, said when working with clients, the most important thing is the functionality of the space.

“Because people can always make things look pretty,” Fyall said. “But do your cabinets function for your style of cooking or to the number of people in the kitchen? ... I really want to make sure that there is a place for everything ... that they don’t have to dig to the back of the cabinet.”

Castillo said Collective Interiors is a place where anyone can walk in and look around and gain inspiration.

# Please drive safe this winter

**Cassandra Hays**  
*Editor-in-Chief*



*Graphic by Teagan Kimbro*

Sources used: WSDOT, TakeWinterByStorm

**Before you leave:**

- Load your car with winter travel gear: tire chains, ice scraper/snow brush, jumper cables and road flares.
- Keep a basic winter survival kit in your vehicle: flashlight, batteries, blanket, snacks, water, gloves, boots, first-aid kit.
- Check tires and make sure chains fit before driving in snowy weather
- Check oil, brakes, headlights, wipers etc.
- Studded tires are allowed in Washington from Nov. 1 to Mar. 31.
- Keep your gas tank full: WSDOT recommends not falling below half a tank during winter trips.
- WSDOT updates their Twitter (@WSDOT) with road conditions. Their app also shows current road conditions.

**On the road:**

- Watch for signs or check the app to find out when traction tires are advised, when chains are advised for trucks and when chains are required for all vehicles.
- Drive slower, leave extra space between vehicles to give yourself more time to stop
- Do not use cruise control
- Leave extra room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you
- Slow down when approaching intersections, offramps, bridges or shady spots
- If you find yourself behind a snowplow, slow down and give the plow extra room
- If you find yourself stranded, be safe, stay in your car, put on your flashers, call for help and wait until it arrives.



Editor: Mary Park

# Ellensburg puts on holiday events



Photo Courtesy of Ellensburg Downtown Association

Santa Claus greets children at the Rotary Pavilion as part of the “Moments to Remember” event on Nov. 29. The Ellensburg Downtown Association hosted the longtime local tradition with a variety of holiday entertainment including tree lighting and a cookie scavenger hunt.

**Tapanga Krause**  
Staff Reporter

Whether it’s cozy sweater parties, a night out with the girls or annual tree lightings, the Ellensburg community has a variety of holiday events to choose from. The Ellensburg Downtown Association (EDA) and Iron Horse Brewery are putting on some of these events to help the community ring in the holiday season.

Moments to Remember is an annual event that the EDA puts on every year. It took place on Nov. 29 with the annual tree lighting and Dancing in the State Farm Windows.

According to Taylor Villwock, the public relations (PR) representative for the EDA, Dancing in the State Farm Windows tends to draw a big crowd. There were two groups performing this year: Dubstep Studio and the Ellensburg Dance Ensemble. The dance ensemble performed two 30-minute shows while Dubstep Studio performed an hour long show.

Villwock said she enjoys this event because the dance groups “really get into it” by dressing up in their holiday outfits and giving their all to the performance.

“It’s such a unique way to showcase their talents,” Villwock said. “And I think the parents definitely appreciate it.”

Preceding this event was the annual tree lighting. Villwock said that the tree lighting kicks off the holiday season and puts people in the holiday spirit.

There were also hot cider and hot chocolate for everyone to enjoy. Santa Claus arrived at 5:30 p.m. to pass out candy canes. This event has been going on for as long as Villwock can remember and has been a tradition in the community for years.

On Dec. 12 EDA’s Girls’ Night Out will take place from 5-9 p.m. According to Villwock, the event has been going on for as long as she can remember.

“It’s definitely a loved event downtown,” Villwock said. “I can’t ever see it going away.”

The main goal for this event is to

bring more people to the downtown businesses. This gives businesses the opportunity to do something different and stay open longer. Most businesses downtown close at around 5-6 p.m. According to Villwock, the businesses get very invested in this event. They decorate for the holidays, bring in vendors and have food and drinks for customers.

Villwock believes that people should come to this event because it’s a good way to experience Ellensburg and all the town offers. It gets shoppers to explore shops they normally wouldn’t go into and gives them the opportunity to find things that they didn’t know was here in Ellensburg.

There are a couple of shops in town that Villwock said not a lot of people know about.

“Things that they can get in town, other than going to a big box store or going to the west side,” Villwock said. “There’s Purity Silkworks, where you can get bath stuff. They even have dog shampoo. Just cool unique things like that. There’s clothing stores, a lot of spas and salons.”

Villwock’s favorite part of this event is getting to participate in it.

The Cozy Sweater Party will take place on Dec. 6 at Iron Horse Brewery from 7-10 p.m. According to Jared Vallejo, director of marketing for Iron Horse Brewery, this event has been going on since 2009.

“A decade of cozy sweater parties in various forms feels like a tradition,” Vallejo said. “However, we could just be blinded by our love for a good old social gathering.”

Vallejo said the main goal for this event has always been the same: have fun, let loose, connect with your community and enjoy friends old and new.

Along with this, Iron Horse will help support the Cold Weather Shelter by collecting as many mittens, beanies, gloves and jackets as possible for those who could use them the most.

Vallejo said the true character of a community is revealed by how it treats those most in need. According to him,

Ellensburg tends to answer the call, and Iron Horse is here to simply create another pathway to do so. Vallejo’s favorite part of the event is seeing the collective

joy from a wide range of people, coming together for a common cause.

“Also the beer is pretty dang good too,” Vallejo said.

College of Arts and Humanities

THIS WEEK

5

Symphonic Bands

7 p.m., McIntyre Hall

5-8

Holiday Inn, by Irving Berlin,

7:30 p.m., McConnell Auditorium - Dec. 8 @ 2 p.m.

\$15 / \$12 / \$8 Based on the holiday film (Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire), this joyous musical features thrilling dance umbers, laugh-out-loud comedy and a parade of Berlin songs “Cheek to Cheek,” “White Christmas,” and more!

7

An Afternoon of Jazz

4 p.m. & 7 p.m., McIntyre Hall

\$12 / \$7 \*ticket good at 7 PM concert as well\*

8

Orchestra Concert

4 p.m., McIntyre Hall

The CWU Symphony Orchestra welcomes Seattle Symphony’s principal cellist, Efe Baltacigil, to Ellensburg. The West Coast premier of Dr. Kennedy’s “Forest Dark and Stars Above”, and Sibelius’ Symphony No. 7.

13

Jazz Nutcracker

7 p.m., McIntyre Hall

\$12 / \$7

Information and tickets

[cwu.edu/arts/events](http://cwu.edu/arts/events)

CWU

College of Arts and Humanities



# ICE *in* Ellensburg

Story by Nicholas Tucker | Photos by Samantha Cabeza | Design by Aiden Knabel

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Continued from Page 1

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“It’s not right to have this [contract]. I know two students personally who have been affected by this contract already, who have been in the jail and that have been detained by ICE,” Avila said. “It’s really hard to try to help students who are in these situations when the university has no protocol to deal with that, and it just wouldn’t have happened if we just didn’t have that contract.”

Students and local immigrant support groups are working together on these demonstrations as well as other action of resistance towards ICE. In addition to the protests, Avila and her MEChA peers are hosting workshops for undocumented students to help them know and exercise their rights. One of the allies of MEChA in the protests has been Justice for our Neighbors.

“We’ve decided to partner up with Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors, which is a group of immigrant attorneys here in Ellensburg,” Avila said. “They’ve been doing this for a while now. They go out in front of the courthouse and just do vigils for immigrants in our community who are affected by this contract that the sheriff has with ICE.”

According to Todd Milton, board president for Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors, the organization is a nonprofit legal clinic which provides legal services to low-income refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants. The Central Washington branch has offices in Ellensburg and Walla Walla.

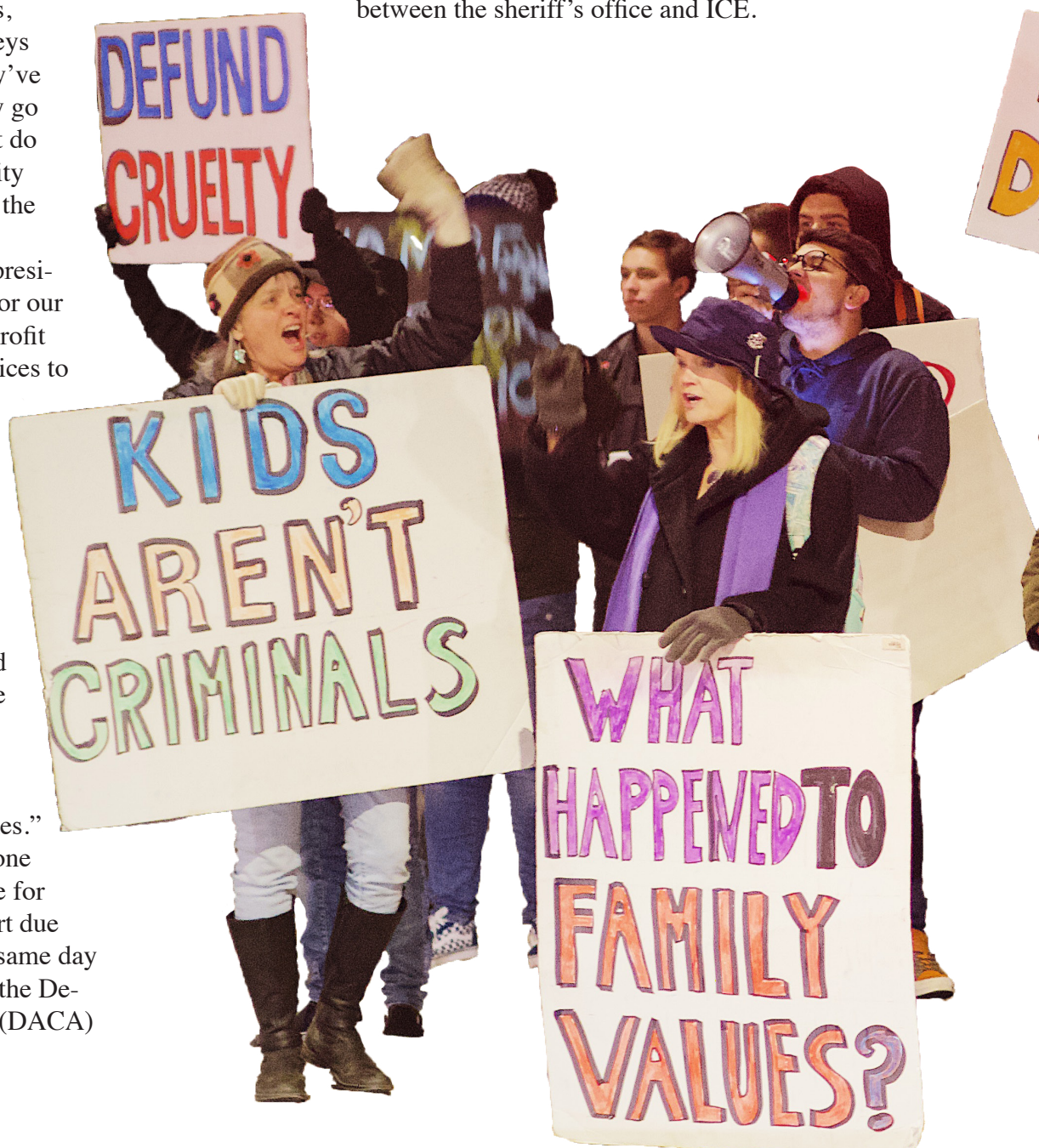
“The focus has been to bring attention to the cruelty of the Trump administration’s immigration policies with a real focus on family separation,” Milton said. “There’s a fear and uncertainty that has affected everyone across the country, and Ellensburg hasn’t been safe from that. We know that people are afraid to go to court, afraid even to go into public sometimes.”

The protest on November 13 was one of the largest that MEChA and Justice for our Neighbors has staged, in large part due to the Supreme Court hearing on the same day which has the potential to shut down the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

program. The court has yet to announce a decision and the deadline for doing so isn’t until June 2020, but that didn’t stop protesters from demonstrating. One such protester was Dr. Susana Flores, a CWU professor in the College of Education and Professional Studies. She said that this is a personal fight for her.

“I came from Mexico when I was 9 years old. We came as a documented immigrants,” Flores said. “Getting an education was really hard because you don’t qualify for federal financial aid, you don’t qualify for most scholarships. I’ve had students with perfect grade point averages that can’t go on to pursue a professional degree, or who couldn’t finish their careers at [CWU].”

Sheriff Myers has responded in the past when concerns have been raised about the connections between the sheriff’s office and ICE.





# lensburg

“There are tragedies involving enforcement of immigration and there are tragedies involving lack of immigration enforcement,” Myers said to The Daily Record. “Both have resulted in torn up families, both have resulted in violence, both have resulted in crime. We certainly don’t want to be painted with the brush that we simply don’t care about the families of immigrants because we do. We care about families of everybody and we want to treat them all with respect and with accordance to the law. We’re not political. We’re public safety.”



## U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement





Editor: Cassandra Hays



Art by Alana Jacobs

Snapshot Regrets, Asya Marie Wilson

If I / yes / did that / told you / felt / why not / stepped forward / yes / no / yes / hadn't / didn't / that instead / please / stop / I'm not ready to / leaped / jumped / flew high / gone here / there / had the courage to / yes / no / faced the fears / who? / I knew / gone / didn't / go / yes / yes / yes / stop it / goodbye / I always wanted / yes / told them / showed them / I knew / I know / hello / called out / you out / hurt me / you / yes / unkind / cruel / never let me / wrong / you are wrong / wrong / wrong / wrong / yes / I saw / truth / listened to / yes / me / me / me / never / you were / you are / you can't / wrong / it is / you know / I do / the faults / why? / you knew / they see / I know / I am / spoke / gone / now / away / far / I'm there / me / that / not that / asked them / yelled / shouted / listen / left then / ran / it's time to / here / now / said what I / didn't fall / didn't let him / stop / stop / stop it / fast / hide / don't / no / didn't lie to / yes / exposed / the wound / yes / fought them / him / the lies / liar / cried / lived / loved / hated / openly I / took the / yes / the chance / been / gone / moved / did what I / now / now / now / now / yes / yes / yes / yes / if I had then / would everything be different / different than it is today?

The Vagrant by Bailey Tomlinson

Walking along a silent summer highway  
the Vagrant thinks to herself about the Kingdom of the Damned  
From the haughty darkness of the River Styx  
to the plunging fear of Catholic Hell  
She muses on how not a single soul  
can agree on the features of an eternity of ruin.

A solitary sparrow glides low past her  
and displayed upon its feathers are eternities of flight  
She gives a knowing nod as it lifts away, a confession  
between creatures who are their own homes  
It nods back, never stopping  
only pausing to breathe.

Like a tender orange loves it's rind  
the Vagrant loves the world bitterly  
Clinging to it for safety and longevity  
she absorbs the tart pollution into herself  
and breathes out clean love, like orange juice  
Every drop served on a hot summer day  
the same as the days the Vagrant walks.

The Vagrant can never lose sight of her eternity  
finding her way down that scorching asphalt trail  
But she must always be willing to release her details  
just as the sparrow winds skyward away from the dirt,  
just as the orange weeps sweetly upon the removal of its skin,  
She will find exultation in the loss of her restraints

You are alcohol.

Just about everyone wants to try a little, see how it feels.  
Some people can moderate their consumption, some can't help themselves.  
People like me take one sip and start chugging.  
People like me learn to not mind the mild burn because it's worth it.  
People like me catch the worst of impending addiction.  
People like me can't help but lose their logic.  
People like me can't control how drunk they become because they are so focused on the taste of you.  
Actually, it's not "people like me", it's just me.  
No one has ever been so drunk on you as I have.  
No one has ever loved your taste like I do.  
No one has ever paid so little mind to the sting of hangovers.  
No one has ever loved the burn in their chest so much as I have, as I do.

I am an alcoholic.

-Taylor Smith

A Poem to Myself  
By: Ellen Adell McMahon

You are in a rush to grow up  
To explore  
To fight  
To live

You are eager to be comfortable  
In a skin you cannot comprehend

My love, this isn't meant to be

Breathe in  
Breathe out  
And let it live  
You are where you're meant to be

Don't worry so much about  
Who you are  
What others are doing  
When your prince will come  
Where your righteous crucible is  
Why you are here

How?

Let yourself love who you are  
I promise, it's more than enough



"Couple 1"  
Andrea Thomas  
5" x 5" Graphite and Ink on Clayboard



Editor: Cassandra Hays



“No Rain, No Flowers”  
Marissa Strickland  
3.5’x2.5’ oil on canvas

To be anonymous (and untitled):

One  
Draw me on your body  
  
Draw me a bath  
  
With wine, roses, and candlelight  
  
Draw a ring on my back  
  
And our names in the sand

Two  
  
Liquid color that doesn’t run  
  
Is wrapped around my body  
  
The lush layers glide over my skin  
  
As I turn in my sleep  
  
Wrapped in satin  
  
And dreaming of you

Three  
  
What do I remember of NY?  
  
Lots of flooding.  
  
The streets, the subways, the buildings.  
  
Like a sea in constant motion  
  
A fluid mass that shouted  
  
“Get out of my fucking way”

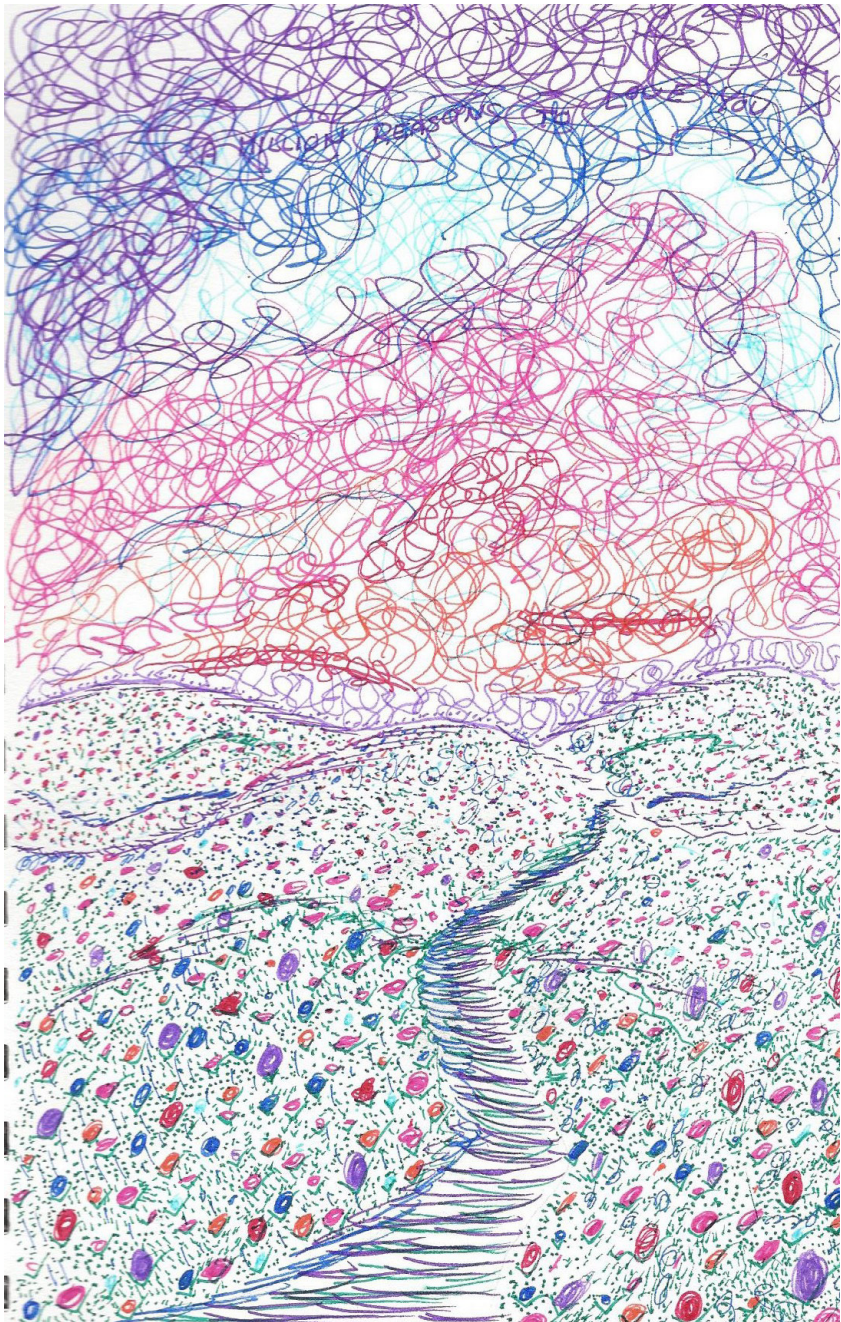
Four  
  
When my anxieties were at their worst,  
  
I was sure that no one could possibly understand  
  
The hell I was going through.  
  
Now, I know I am not that special.  
  
The devil preys on us all.

Five  
  
I think the most beautiful sight in the world  
Is the view out a window of a red-eye flight  
  
Beneath you, a birds-eye view of a map you’ve only seen in 2D  
  
Becomes a picture through your retinas  
  
City lights form constellations on the ground  
  
Mountains and valleys and lakes  
  
Usually traced by your fingers  
  
Are alive below.

Perfect Formation

When I see a piece of fabric I like,  
I replicate the cloth  
and stitch it into myself.  
*thwip twip twip*  
When I am no longer fascinated by the fabric,  
I cut it out of my quilted body.  
Am I simply a patchwork of other people?  
When I no longer like that part of me,  
I rip it from my memory.  
Now I lie with holes,  
Neither full nor empty.  
The world, they say, has no mercy.  
I can’t complete myself.  
*snip snip snip*  
Now I lie with the remnants,  
somewhere between full and empty,  
feeling the wind blow through the craters.  
I will not be perfect.  
The world pulses through my hollow body.  
What is me and what is them?

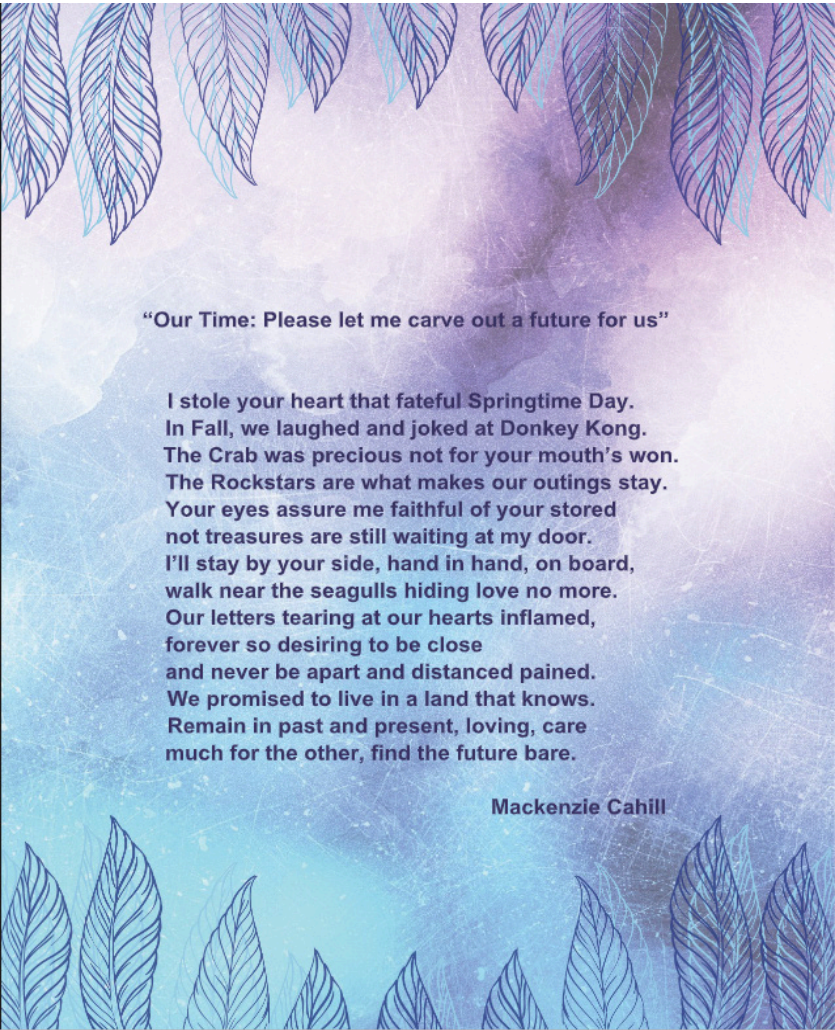
Shelby Davis



“A Million Reasons to Love You”  
Jermaine Hollins  
Instagram: @drawingsbyjoh



Editor: Cassandra Hays



I was color blind when I was with you  
Red flags looked green  
The stormy sky looked sunny and clear  
Everyone was holding an umbrella but I bared the rain  
Once you left, my vision returned to normal  
And I found myself standing in a puddle soaking wet  
I now wear sunglasses when I meet someone new  
So that my vision doesn't get messed up like it did with you.

Lucile Campbell



“Janis Joplin”  
Krista Kok

My grandmother confused  
Korea and Vietnam but called them all the same.

Her semantic, not mine. Her house a sepulcher  
by the sea of qīng-huā china;

the woman knew China like she knew nutmeg  
and cloves. A traditional piety, her recipes.

Would our children be ecumenical?  
Do you even know what that might mean?

You know that I write of her, but no one writes of wives  
with spurred heels, sharp edges, coarse and oily fur.

I am not a lesser woman; I am lesser known, and  
I could never love like Leto, for all that she roamed.

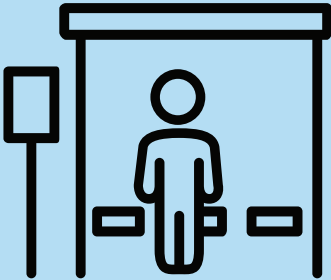
So if you are a scion, then so am I;  
just as vicious, sacrilegious,

just as sovereign, unrepentant  
of this tonic independence.

I love you, but I will  
remain. Always of my father’s name.

Quinn Weir

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Editor: TyYonna Kitchen

# Time to show CWU the way

**Kyle Wilkinson**
*Columnist*

It's 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday morning and you're already late to class. You pull up to the intersection of Dean Nicholson Boulevard and Walnut Street. You nervously glance at your watch as students file past and you wait another 10 minutes before you can make a left turn. This is a horribly busy intersection with students and drivers. The university needs to install an overpass over the road to help manage the flow of pedestrians and traffic.

I have found myself waiting in this intersection many times. Students walking or riding bikes move in a steady flow from the free parking by Tomlinson Stadium to class. Sitting here has made my wife and me late to our classes and has wasted time getting from point A to point B in Ellensburg.

Not only do I have to wait, but the other cars at the intersection wait as well. By the time there is an opening to go, cars will usually forget who was supposed to go next.

CWU should consider installing two pedestrian pathways over Dean Nicholson Boulevard, one on each side of the intersection. Yakima Valley College has an overpass over Nob Hill Boulevard for its students. This connects one half of campus to the other. Nob Hill can be quite busy, and if students had to use the crosswalks, nobody would ever get to

their next class on time. Whenever I used the accompanying crosswalks at Yakima Valley College, I still had to be mindful of people that wouldn't stop. I found the overpass to be quite helpful and safe.

A simple overpass wide enough for two or three people to walk abreast would be sufficient. A ramp would be best so that students riding bikes or needing walking assistance can get over easily. It could even look like the bridges over the canal on campus. This could add to the aesthetic of campus overall and even be used for photos and promotional use for the university.

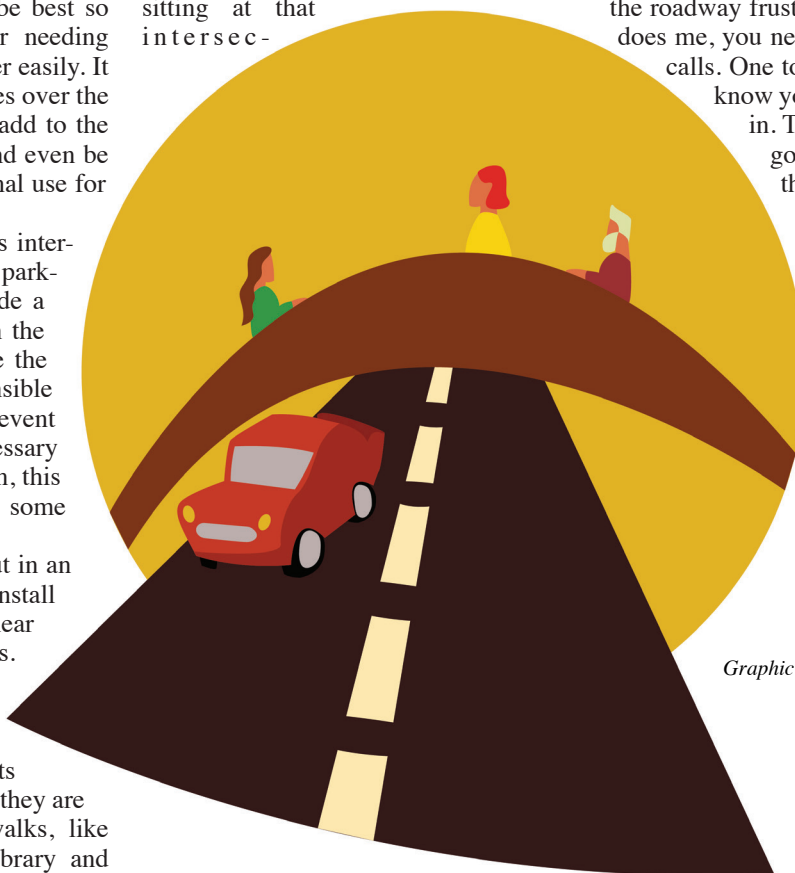
Having walkways over this intersection could also help with parking. Being able to walk or ride a bike from the free parking on the north side of campus and use the overpass could promote sensible parking. This could also prevent people from receiving unnecessary parking tickets. Not to mention, this could cut down on how busy some lots on campus can be.

If the university doesn't put in an overpass, they can at least install flashing lights like those near other crosswalks on campus. This would help with safety, especially at night. When I drive around campus, I often cannot see some students because of the darker clothing they are wearing. Those other crosswalks, like the ones between Brooks Library and

Dugmore Hall, have the ability to flash brightly and incessantly to let drivers know that someone is using the crosswalk. This could be especially useful after football, volleyball and basketball games if installed instead of an overpass.

So the next time you are sitting at that intersection,

waiting for a long line of students to walk past, think about how much quicker it would be if there was an overpass there. And if you're driving late at night, keep an eye out for pedestrians walking across the street. If the lack of flashing signage and safe means of getting over the roadway frustrates you as much as it does me, you need to make a couple of calls. One to the school to let them know you want an overpass put in. The second one needs to go to me, so we can get the ball rolling as a team!



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

# The hype around film cameras

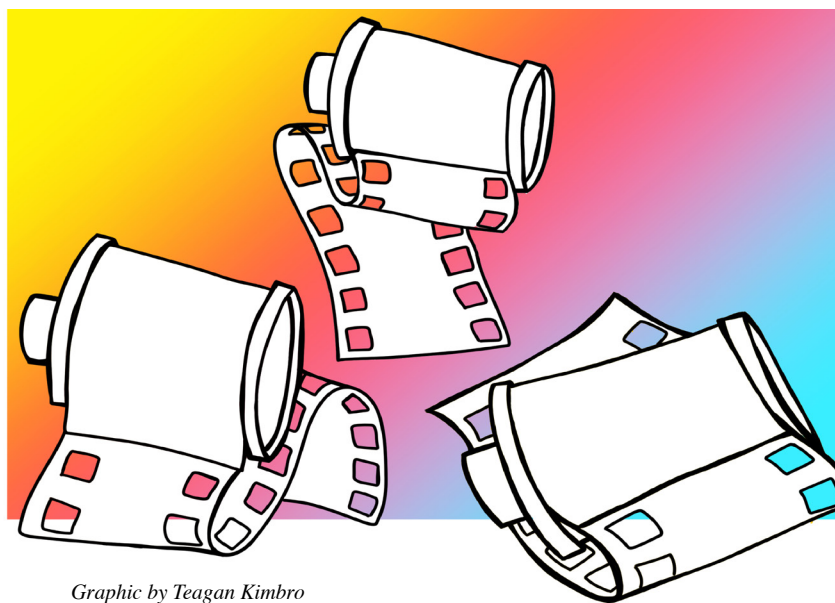
**Amy Morris**
*Columnist*

The rise of film photography has grown, making it a popular form of artistic expression. With photography technology so advanced it makes you wonder why people are going back to old mediums. Recently I purchased a film camera and I do believe film cameras are a lot better than digital ones in many ways.

The experience of taking a picture with a film camera rather than a digital one is a totally different. When taking digital pictures the process is less about the experience and more about the result. I always scroll through Instagram and see all these perfectly photographed images that seem to be so in the moment and genuine. In reality the person probably spent a good half hour just getting that perfect shot.

With digital photography you get instant results. Getting instant results can be great in many cases, but it takes away from the experience. When I shoot with a digital camera, I find myself taking so many pictures of the same image just because of tiny details that take away from the image appearing perfect. It is easy to get consumed with how the lighting, angle and composition looks when you get instant results.

When taking film photographs, you don't get to see how the image looks until you get it processed. Sure, you can spend hours taking a picture of the same shot but it won't make much of a difference when you can't see what



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

the image looks like. Film photography embraces imperfection because it is not as constructed as digital photography.

The process of taking film photographs is more about the experience of it, rather than what the photographs look like. When you get the films processed it will be a surprise, and a good memory despite how the picture turns out. It usually takes a couple days for stores to process the film rolls which creates anticipation and adds to the appreciation of the photographs once you actually get them. Walgreens, for example, takes three to five business days to process film rolls.

The shift from film to digital has changed the use of photography from remembering

special memories to a form of communicating with peers, according to research done on digital photography by José van Dijck. Unlike digital photography, every film photograph taken is valuable because of the cost of both film rolls and processing.

On Instagram the rise of photographs with film looking filters has become a big trend. It seems pretty pointless to me to add a film filter when you can just get a film camera. It seems almost deceiving in a way to fake a film photograph because it seems ingenuine. People want that perfect Instagram picture, but they add the film filter to make it look more vintage and in the moment.

Digital cameras can also be ex-

tremely expensive and will need to be upgraded every few years. Just like iPhones, there is always going to be newer technology that is better quality and has cooler features. With film cameras, they never have to be upgraded because the whole essence of film cameras is their age.

Film cameras are relatively cheap compared to digital cameras. While digital cameras can be thousands of dollars, a good quality film camera is usually only a couple hundred dollars, according to the website Guide to Film Photography.

I bought a Canon AE-1 35mm film camera with a 50mm lens for only \$153.80. My purchase also included a camera case and strap. The cost of a three pack film roll cost me \$21.49. According to Walgreens' website, it costs only \$14.99 to process 24 exposures for 35mm film. Purchasing film rolls and getting them processed can seem pricey, but compared to the price of a digital camera, it is worth the investment.

While digital cameras have their perks, film cameras open the door to a new experience. Sometimes in life it is good to slow things down and appreciate the moments in life rather than getting instant results.



Editor: TyYonna Kitchen

# A knight in shining plot holes

TyYonna Kitchen  
Columnist

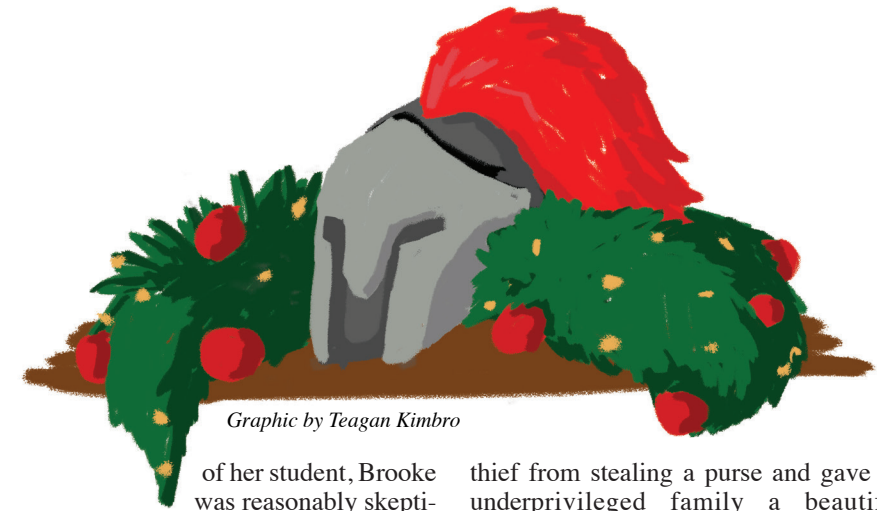
“The Knight Before Christmas” (2019) is a movie for those searching for cheesy Christmas plot holes. This gem of a movie stars Vanessa Hudgens and Josh Whitehouse as Brooke, a high school teacher, and Sir Cole, a medieval knight, respectively.

This movie was irritating. It was too “middle.” The average Hallmark Christmas movie has amped up everything from the acting to the script. A regular romantic comedy will engage audiences with the usual two characters meet and end up together by the time the credits roll equation. This Netflix movie fell in between these two structures.

If a movie has a premise such as a time traveling knight that falls in love with this teacher who is no longer enchanted by love, I expect it all. The classic romcom over acting, an over the top reason for the witch to send Cole into the future and threat to the relationship between the two protagonists. The movie is called “The Knight Before Christmas.” If your pun game is that strong, your movie has to back it up. It just doesn’t live up to the expected tackiness, and this only made the plot holes shine brighter.

The beginning of the movie seemed normal enough. Brooke was set up to be a heart broken, and therefore unwilling to ever love again. She tells one of her teenage students that love is for fairytales and that her academic goals are all that should matter to her.

Though I disagree with her handling



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

of her student, Brooke was reasonably skeptical. She had recently been cheated on by her long term boyfriend. Brooke’s character was a bit misguided, but at least she kind of had a reason to be the way she was. The character, however, was also lackluster. She seemed more embarrassed by her ex than jaded for the most part.

The movies plot depended on Sir Cole’s quest, which was bestowed upon him by a strange old woman in a forest. A quest that required him to open his heart and eyes. As cheesy as that already is, it only takes three seconds to guess that knight plus wounded high school teacher equals Brooke being Cole’s quest. This quest wouldn’t have seemed so stupid if there hadn’t been equally good scenes that would have made better quests without ruining the romcom plot. The good knight rescued Brooke’s niece from a life threatening ice incident, stopped a

thief from stealing a purse and gave an underprivileged family a beautiful Christmas full of presents for the kids. But no, the quest was to fall in love and stay with Brooke, never to see his brother ever again.

The movie struggled with stakes and overall reasoning the entire time. At one point Cole said staying in present day Ohio with Brooke wouldn’t be bad. As a watcher, I couldn’t help but think about that moment. If he truly no longer felt like going back to his appropriate time period, then why was I still having to watch the movie? What was the point after that? I get that the point is the quest, but Cole basically threw that out the window to be with Brooke (which was the point by the end of the movie anyway). It was confusing, but the movie continued on anyway.

A question that I have for the magical forest lady is this: why Cole? In the movie, he does say that he chose his knight

ship over a woman. That one incident does not warrant a ticket into the future. He should have been a total love scrooge. At least Brooke had her slight cringe face and inappropriate advisory moments to show that she “needs” love. Cole was hunting and found a cupid wannabe that forced him into this “quest” without a warning or permission.

To make matters worse (spoiler alert), the woman gets to Cole’s younger brother during the end credits. Cole had a flimsy reason, but his brother had just been knighted seconds before the rip off of a lifetime was offered to him. Honestly, a better movie would have followed the witch as she tricked every knight in the kingdom into going to the future for love. After completing that task she would probably murder the king or something.

“The Knight Before Christmas” was a soft Christmas romcom that was supposed to force those feel good holiday feelings. Instead, it showed off middle tier script writing, an underdeveloped plot and a few cute scenes that felt buried because of my mounting questions.

# Hungry? Get food stamps

Aeryn Kauffman  
Columnist

You shouldn’t have to survive on ramen noodles while getting your education. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also referred to as food stamps, gives students a monthly food allowance while enrolled in school.

According to the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, students enrolled in at least six credits of college courses are eligible for SNAP benefits. Students must be employed and working at least 20 hours a week to receive SNAP benefits. Alternatively, students who are eligible for work-study can receive food stamps.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), a non-partisan research and policy institute, reports that 1-in-8 Washington state residents use food stamps. The Washington Post reports as many as 1-in-3 college students experience food insecurity, meaning these students

struggle to find enough to eat.

Juan Serrano, a psychology major, knows a few students who struggle to buy food.

“There’s a lot of students out there that [really] don’t know about the food stamp program,” Serrano said. “I had a classmate stop a lecture and told the teacher, ‘Do you know where I could find a place that has food?’”

The solution is simple: apply for food stamps.

The CBPP reports an average of \$122 a month of food stamp benefits per person. That means you can buy low-cost foods that are nutritious and filling, such as rice, beans, pasta and frozen vegetables, and still have enough to use on avocado toast.

Students who have children may be eligible for more food stamp benefits. Using food stamps helps students save money to use on other necessities, like books, rent and gas.

Unfortunately, there are negative stereo-

types associated with using food stamps. As a result, people who need SNAP benefits may feel reluctant to use them.

“I think a lot of that has to do with ... skewed ideas they have of people that use these programs. I’m a Mexican-American ... I come from a background where sometimes my people have needed help before, and a lot of the times people are always so skeptical of that,” Serrano said.

But these negative stereotypes aren’t true. SNAP benefits don’t just benefit students. They benefit the economy, as well. The CBPP reports \$1 of SNAP benefits produces \$1.70 in economic growth. Those who receive food stamps spend more on food, naturally.

“By providing more resources for food, SNAP helps free up cash for poor households to buy other essential items, like diapers and medication. As a result, retail sales increase, benefiting stores that sell both food and non-food items,” the CBPP website reads.

While you pursue your education, you should be supported. One day, you’ll give back to the community by using what you’ve learned in college. Using food stamps for a couple of

years in college should be comparable to accepting grants and scholarships for school. Without food, you won’t be able to finish your education. Money is tight, so we should use the resources that are available to us.

For more information on how to get involved with SNAP, contact the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), the SNAP administers. One can call the DTA at (877) 382-2363.

Graphics by Teagan Kimbro



## More Help

- SNAP can be applied for online and at a local Community Service office.
- There are offices in both Ellensburg and Yakima
- Contacting Social and Health Services Department (DSHS) or DTA will offer more information.
- Any student in need should apply. The worst that can happen is that you receive a “no.”
- Students can always visit the CWU PUSH Pantry locations if they don’t have the time to wait.



Editor: TyYonna Kitchen

# Two words: OK boomer

Austin Lane  
Columnist

We hear the saying, “OK boomer,” often now. Is it disrespectful? Is it degrading? For millennials and Gen Zers, this common response has come to fruition as a result of constant berating by an older generation that failed us. As a whole, the boomers have really let me (and obviously others) down. “OK boomer” is usually said after a boomer says something along the lines of “oh, you overslept again,” “millenials are snowflakes” and “get a job, it was easy back in my day.” Sure, also back in your day you didn’t have to compete with women and minorities for jobs.

Not all boomers are worthy of clapping back. Some of them actually acknowledge they are part of a generation that talk about the future but doesn’t try to fix it. I’m thankful for this type of boomer. However, many boomers blame a lot of societal issues on newer generations without thinking to themselves that they might be a part of the problem too. And problems, there most certainly are.

The Atlantic wrote a piece earlier this year that took an in-depth look at how the mistakes of past generations are creating current problems. Land-use rules continue to make previous homeowners richer. Strict licensing rules continue to make existing

workers richer. Education is becoming more expensive. Economic returns for getting an education are dropping. The population is continuing to be incarcerated at alarming rates. Working Americans are falling into debt more and more everyday.

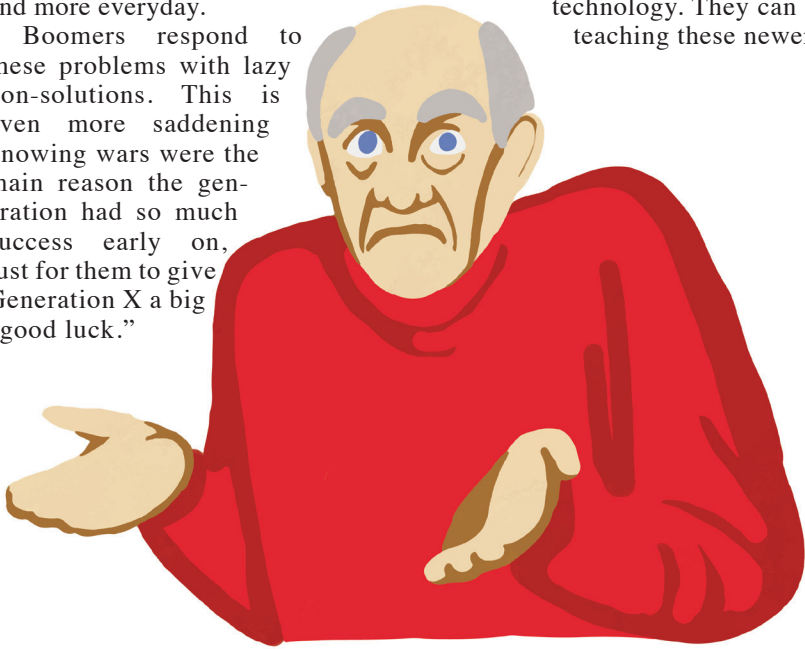
Boomers respond to these problems with lazy non-solutions. This is even more saddening knowing wars were the main reason the generation had so much success early on, just for them to give Generation X a big “good luck.”

Still, things can change. Society knows baby boomers are very important. The American Medical Student Association said between 2010 and 2030, one in five american citizens will be over the age of 65 and considered “senior citizens.” This means baby boomers continue to be

a big factor in business and culture. There’s still a chance for baby boomers to make a positive impact on the future of America. For example, newer generations help out baby boomers by teaching them how to use new technology. They can start by teaching these newer

cliche responses to major societal issues. Even on a smaller scale, we see boomers on social media posting news articles that have been proven to be fake, spread ideas that aren’t always true and ridicule people for opposing opinions and views on society. Until these things start to change at a national level, I won’t feel inclined to change my thoughts on the matter. Also, my response will continue to be simple ... OK boomer.

Graphic by Teagan Kimbro



### Call for reader work

Do you have a burning letter, a hot opinion or a piece of artwork that you want published?

We would love to see your work.

Please email us at [cwuobserver@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserver@gmail.com) or stop by Lind Hall 115 on Mondays and Tuesdays 5-6 p.m.

An advertisement for cwupulse magazine. It features a white plastic shopping bag with the words "READ PULSE" repeated in a bold, sans-serif font. The bag is set against a solid red background. At the bottom of the bag, the website "cwupulsemagazine.com" is visible. Below the bag, the website name "cwupulsemagazine.com" is repeated in a larger font, along with social media icons for YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

## Prevent Your Pipes From Freezing

Close exterior floor vents. Close and seal the crawlspace access door.

Disconnect all garden hoses.

Keep the temperature in your home above 55 degrees.

Insulate perimeter walls in the crawlspace.

Wrap both cold and hot water pipes with insulation. If you wrap water pipes with heat tape, follow the manufacturer’s instructions.

Traveling? Have someone check your house to make sure it’s warm enough to prevent frozen water pipes, or have the City turn off your water at no charge.

Know where your water shut off valve is located and how to use it. If a water pipe bursts, this can minimize damage.

When temperatures drop below zero, try letting the hot and cold water trickle overnight. This is especially critical for water pipes located on outside walls.

Try opening cabinet doors under a sink or appliance near an outer wall to allow heat to get to un-insulated water pipes.

For more information, or for after hours emergency water shutoff, call the Public Works & Utilities Department at 962-7230.

The logo for the City of Ellensburg, Washington, featuring a stylized globe with a tree and the text "City of Ellensburg WASHINGTON".



Editor: Nick Jahnke

# Connecting students with professionals

Austin Lane  
Senior Sports Reporter

CWU Sport Management Club invites students from all majors to come learn more about working in the sports industry. As one of the newer clubs on campus, it is still in the process of growing and setting up events for students to attend.

On Nov. 21, the club hosted a meeting for students to come listen to Andy Knapp, the director of marketing for the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). This meeting was the third official meeting for the club this quarter. In a previous meeting, CWU Director of Athletics Dennis Francois came to speak with students about the sport industry as well.

About 20 students came to the meeting as well as some CWU faculty who were also interested in Knapp's journey to his current position. One of those students was Kevin Bodle, who also serves as co-president of the club. Bodle said that having professionals come talk with students is a great way to get CWU undergraduates connections that will be valuable after they get their degrees.

"Networking is probably my biggest takeaway from this club," Bodle said. "Not only do you get to meet some of the guys like Dr. Francois, who came on [Nov. 6] as well as Andy Knapp who's coming today ... but you also get networking opportunities through the people that are in the club themselves."

Bodle said building the repertoire with fellow students that share the same passion is helpful to everyone in the club. One student that has come to multiple meetings is junior Emilio Valderas.

Valderas said he finds the club valuable because it opened his eyes to opportunities in the sport industry. For Valderas, however, it's not just about the opportunities, but also the relationships between students and faculty the club begins.

"It's so important to just get involved as early as you can," Valderas said. "For me, realizing it a little bit too late is a little unfortunate, but the great thing about it is that everybody here is working for each other."

Knapp began the speech explaining to the students in the club various things, such as his responsibilities, why he loves his job with the WIAA and his path to his current role with the WIAA. Another thing Knapp talked about was the opportunities for CWU students to get involved. The WIAA offers internships on a seasonal basis, in the spring, summer, fall and winter. The internships allow college students to help work at state championship tournaments as well as conferences.

Julie Barkhoff, the other co-president of the club, said she has had to do a lot of learning due to the club being so new. However, she also said the resources that come with being an official club on campus has many benefits. Access to funding is one of them.



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer  
Sports management club doesn't have a set schedule for meetings. They generally meet when they have a speaker come lecture.

"We haven't done anything yet and we haven't requested any funds, but it's on our mind and we have some plans that we're hoping to do in winter and spring [quarters] that having access to those funds is gonna be really helpful," Barkhoff said. "We can do fundraising, but it's hard to get to that targeted amount you wanna get to so having that extra resource helps."

Some of the things the club is hoping to do in the future are the Portland Trail Blazers career fair as well as a spring break trip to another city. Some of the cities Barkhoff listed as possibilities

were Phoenix, Arizona and Portland, Oregon.

The club does not have a tentative schedule, meetings usually occur whenever a speaker can come to speak with club students. Because of this, Barkhoff and Bodle operate through email notifications. To be put on the notification list for the club or for more information on the club, they can be reached at Kevin.Bodle@cwu.edu or Julie.Barkhoff@cwu.edu. The club is also starting a Twitter account around January, which can be followed at @CWUSMA.

# Tennis club wraps up season at finals



Courtesy of CWU Club Tennis

Aeryn Kauffman  
Staff Reporter

The CWU Tennis Club made the finals at the United States Tennis Association Pacific Northwest Tennis on Campus (TOC) League, held at the Tualatin Hills Tennis Center in Beaverton, Oregon from Nov. 8-10. They were finalists in the consolation side of the silver bracket.

Tennis Club President Shanna Chua said the only reason they didn't win the final match was because they withdrew.

"We probably could have won, but we had to leave that Sunday," Chua said. "[It's] kind of sad, but at the same time it's good ... We took almost a whole team full of freshmen, which never really happens."

CWU Tennis Club's A, B and C teams all made the finals for the silver bracket,

but none competed in the final match.

Tennis Club Safety Officer Christopher King said there were several freshmen on the team this year.

"We really want to try to get as many incoming freshmen and sophomores on the team as possible," King said.

While King is a sophomore, Chua is a senior, and she is trying to make her last year a great experience for the team.

"I want to make it the best season possible, because last year was a little rough," Chua said.

This year, Chua is focusing on building morale.

"I just believe that member recognition is just so important ... if I don't do that, then my members would feel like, you know, what are they working for?" Chua said.

Tennis Club Treasurer Jordyn Fassett

works to increase member participation, as well.

"We have fostered a really good environment for both the level of high intensity competition and total acceptance and comfort with lower level players," Fassett said.

Fassett, a sophomore business administration major, is also a member of the Sports Club Council. According to the council's web page, council members primarily serve as liaisons between sports club members and sports club staff. They also attend monthly meetings and hearings which affect sports clubs as a whole.

"We meet up once a week ... We are the council that decides where money gets allocated. Tennis or any sports club that comes to us with a funding request or something, we try to help them out,"

Fassett said.

Fassett said the council and the tennis club have been focusing on inclusivity this year.

"This year we've been really stressing hosting more. Like, hosting a tournament, and then maybe a kids' camp, bringing them in to teach them a bit about tennis ... This year, we've been doing lots of practices where we all mingle," Fassett said. "Community and inclusivity are probably our top two [focuses]."

King said the tennis club practices exactly what matches are going to be like before going to a tournament.

"That really gets you in that headspace of competition," King said.

Fassett said the tennis club is accepting new members regardless of skill level. Practices are not mandatory, and extra rackets are available.



Editor: Nick Jahnke

# Volleyball digs way into playoffs

Austin Lane  
Senior Sports Reporter

The CWU Volleyball team sneaked into the NCAA Division II West Region playoffs this year as the number eight seed. They will take on California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB), the number one seed in the regional tournament. CSUSB finished the season undefeated, at 27-0.

CWU finished their regular season with a record of 18-10. They finished 13-7 in GNAC conference play, tying Simon Fraser University (SFU), who also finished 13-7. Despite finishing with the same record, CWU beat SFU, 3-0, in the final match of the regular season. This win played a big factor in the selection process for the playoffs. The Wildcats dominated SFU on senior night and the NCAA took notice.

CSUSB has only gone to a fifth set in one match this whole season, against California State University, Los Angeles in the California Collegiate Athletic Association championship match. Out of their 27 wins, 20 of them have come on a 3-0 sweep. The Coyotes are also recognized at a national level, currently sitting at number one in the country on the American Volleyball Coaches Association Division II rankings.

CWU senior libero Kyla Morgan's career is coming to an end soon at CWU. Right now, Morgan sits at 2,333 career digs, good enough for first place in school history and third place in GNAC history. Morgan is excited to continue her college career, even if it may be for one more game.

"I'm super pumped to play San Bernardino," Morgan said. "We definitely are the underdog, but I'm excited for the next week for the team to continue to work on things and get better to bring everything we can to Bernardino."

This season is the eighth straight season the Wildcats have made it to the Division II West Regionals. Senior setter Gabrielle Aihara was excited and was "smiling cheek to cheek" when she and the rest of the team learned they made it into the tournament.

"I just felt this wave of relief and excitement that our season isn't done yet, because I can't imagine being done already," Aihara said.

Aihara said she loves that the eight seed is considered the underdog because it can be used to the Wildcats' advantage. She said it motivates everybody on the team to go for the win even more.

Redshirt senior middle blocker Bridgette Webb said the team is focusing on improving skillwise and connecting in certain areas while gameplanning for San Bernardino in regards to getting good matchups on the court.

The Wildcats take on CSUSB on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. The match is on CSUSB's home court in San Bernardino, California. The winner of the West Region advances to the Elite 8 round in Denver, Colorado.



Courtesy of CWU Athletic Communications

(#20, Gabrielle Aihara) CWU will take on California State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) on Thursday. Historically, CWU has a losing record (2-9) against the team.



Editor: Nick Jahnke

# Ho-ho-hooping into the holidays

**Samantha Cabeza**  
*Staff Reporter*

Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball tournament “Santa Hoops Classic” is hosted annually at CWU. This year it is returning on Dec. 6-8. The entry fee for teams is \$300. Fourth through eighth grade students are allowed to enter the event. The seventh and eighth grade will have two divisions each.

There are weekend passes for students and families who want to attend the event that cost \$6 for a student and \$8 for a parent.

Santa Hoops dates back to the early years of the SURC, according to CWU’s website. The event was originally hosted by Ellensburg, which was helped as a host site. Through the years, it has transitioned to a university recreation event.

AAU Teams from all over Washington will be competing. The teams who win at Santa Hoops will be eligible to compete for the state tournament. For 2019, there is a total of 57 teams joining and this year currently holds the record of highest attendants.

Each team will play at least four games. The possibility exists for some teams to play five games. “The tournament includes pool play, round robin or single elimination to the championship rounds depending on number of teams per division,” according to the Inland Empire AAU event form.

Intramural Sports and Special Events Coordinator Shana Kessler and Indoor Operations and Camps Coordinator Alex Lee said the purpose of Santa Hoops is to provide student employment opportunities, development of transferable skills in risk and event and conflict management.

CWU is expecting 500 players, 60 coaches and assistant coaches and several hundred adults and families who will attend the event to watch their children play. This is the largest amount of attendees and players thus far, said Kessler and Lee.

“Santa Hoops brings people to the CWU campus,” Kessler said.

Lee said that Santa Hoops provides a plethora of opportunities for students, such as engaging with members of the community, earning extra income for CWU students before the winter break and the development of professional skills.

“Our students and officials and event staff are able to increase their skill sets in areas of risk management, conflict management, game management and event management,” Kessler said.

Registration has closed for Santa Hoops and the tournament will be held in the Nicholson Pavilion and other CWU recreation areas if needed. The events will be held Friday from 5-9:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.



Courtesy of CWU Recreation  
Tickets are available for students and parents who wish to attend Santa Hoops. They cost \$6 for students and \$8 for parents.



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# 5 TRIPS A DAY

## WESTBOUND



**CWU Ellensburg Starbucks**  
6:05A • 9:35A • 12:05P • 2:35P • 5:05P

**North Bend Premium Outlets**  
7:45A • 11:15A • 1:45P • 4:15P • 6:45P

**Sea-Tac Airport**  
8:30A • 12:00P • 2:30P • 5:00P • 7:30P

## EASTBOUND



**Sea-Tac Airport**  
11:00A • 1:30P • 4:00P • 6:30P • 9:00P

**North Bend Premium Outlets**  
11:55A • 2:25P • 4:55P • 7:25P • 9:55P

**CWU Ellensburg Starbucks**  
1:35P • 4:05P • 6:35P • 9:05P • 11:35P

**CWU Ellensburg Starbucks** - 908 E. 10th Ave.  
**North Bend Premium Outlets** - 461 South Fork Ave SW





# MADLIB:

Designed by Teagan Kimbro Editor: Mariah Valles

Every \_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_ to a  
(month) (verb)  
tree \_\_\_\_\_ far away. Not just any  
(place)  
\_\_\_\_\_ farm, a \_\_\_\_\_ tree  
(adjective) (adjective)  
\_\_\_\_\_. My dad and I \_\_\_\_\_  
(place) (verb)  
onto the \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for  
(place) (verb)  
the perfect \_\_\_\_\_. Some people like them  
(noun)  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and some like  
(adjective) (adjective)  
them \_\_\_\_\_ and fat. We are searching for a tall  
(noun)  
and \_\_\_\_\_ one! “Over  
(adjective)  
there!” I yell, “Dad, it’s over  
here!” Off we \_\_\_\_\_,  
(verb)  
saw in hand to \_\_\_\_\_  
(verb)  
this year’s \_\_\_\_\_ down,  
(noun)  
it’s finally the one!

# WORD JUMBLE

- 1. adncaency  
minty candy
- 2. ownnsam  
man made of snow
- 3. ticoaavn  
some take this during break
- 4. eret  
You cut down one of these
- 5. rlthisimhtcgsas  
People go look at these
- 6. srepnest  
You give these to people
- 7. gggnoe  
Popular holiday drink
- 8. ofanswelks  
These fall from the sky
- 9. tramcshsi  
December 25th
- 10. eierdenr  
Santa’s pets

# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MENORAHS



PSST... THERE ARE 5

# HOLIDAYS



HYPE suggests

stress-busters

Take a break and recharge!

END OF QUARTER EVENTS

**THU, DEC. 5**  
**Open Mic Night**  
7:30 p.m. signup, 8 p.m. start • 1891 Bistro  
Perform or sit back and enjoy Wildcat talent.  
**Wildcat Basketball vs Seattle Pacific**  
Women's 5:15 p.m. / Men's 7:30 p.m.  
Free for CWU students • Nicholson Pavilion

**THU - SAT, DEC. 5-7**  
**44th Annual Ware Fair in the SURC**  
Thu/Fri: 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Find something for everyone on your list.

**Symphonic Band Concert**  
7 p.m. • Music Building • cwu.edu/music  
**Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn**  
7:30 p.m. • McConnell • cwu.edu/tickets  
Your favorite holiday songs wrapped neatly.

**FRI, DEC. 6**  
**World AIDS Awareness: GYT**  
Sign up at cwu.edu/wellness/get-yourself-tested-registration • Testing 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Student Medical & Counseling Center

**SAT, DEC. 7**  
**19th Holiday Extravaganza**  
10 a.m.-2 p.m. • SURC Ballroom  
Holiday arts & crafts for kids & families.

**Afternoon/Evening of Jazz Concerts**  
4 & 7 p.m. • Music Building • cwu.edu/music  
**Wildcat Basketball vs Saint Martin's**  
Women's 5 p.m. / Men's 7:15 p.m.  
Free for CWU students • Nicholson Pavilion

**SUN, DEC. 8**  
**Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn**  
2 p.m. • McConnell • cwu.edu/tickets  
**Orchestra Concert**  
4 p.m. • Music Building • cwu.edu/music

FINALS WEEK EVENTS

**SUN, DEC. 8**  
**Paws & Relax!**  
4-7 p.m. • Brooks Library, Room 288  
Cuddle with friendly, soothing therapy pups.

**MON, DEC. 9**  
**Jazz & Crafts**  
6 p.m. • Brooks Library Student Commons  
Listen to The Professors, macramé a thing.

**TUE, DEC. 10**  
**Banff Mountain Film Festival**  
7 p.m. • SURC Theatre • cwu.edu/tickets  
Outdoor adventures of all kinds showcased.

**Waffle Night at Brooks Library**  
8-9:30 p.m. • Brooks Library Fish Bowl

**WED, DEC. 11**  
**Pizza w/ Friends of the Library**  
8-9:30 p.m. • Brooks Library Fish Bowl

**THU, DEC. 12**  
**Popcorn Bar**  
1-5 p.m. • Brooks Library Student Commons

**FRI, DEC. 13**  
**The Jazz Nutcracker Concert**  
7 p.m. • Music Building • cwu.edu/music  
Arr. by Duke Ellington & Billy Strayhorn

RESOURCES & HOURS

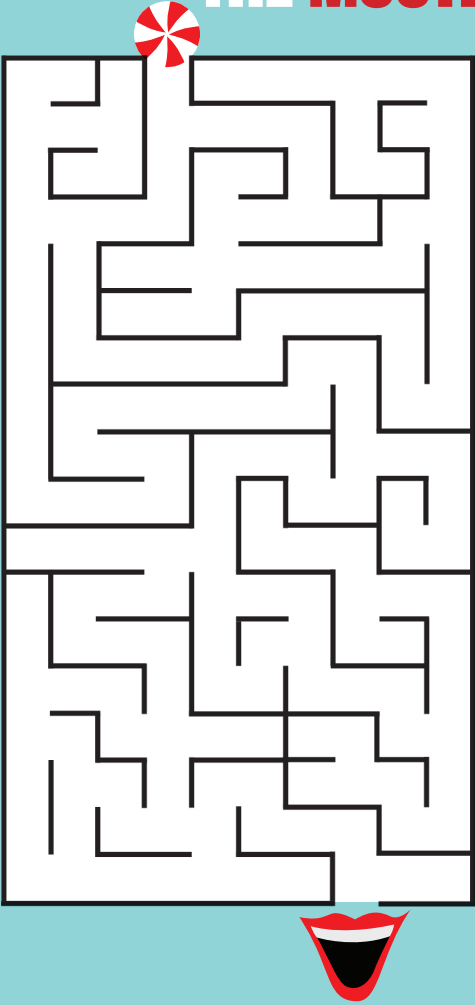
- COUNSELING**  
cwu.edu/medical-counseling
- ACADEMIC ADVISING**  
cwu.edu/academic-advising
- WELLNESS**  
cwu.edu/wellness
- RECREATION & FITNESS**  
cwu.edu/rec
- DINING & COFFEE**  
cwu.edu/dining
- 1891 BISTRO**  
Open 24/7
- SURC HOURS**  
cwu.edu/surc
- LIBRARY HOURS**  
lib.cwu.edu

**CRISIS TEXT LINE:** Text "HOME" to 741741  
24/7 texting service to support those in crisis.

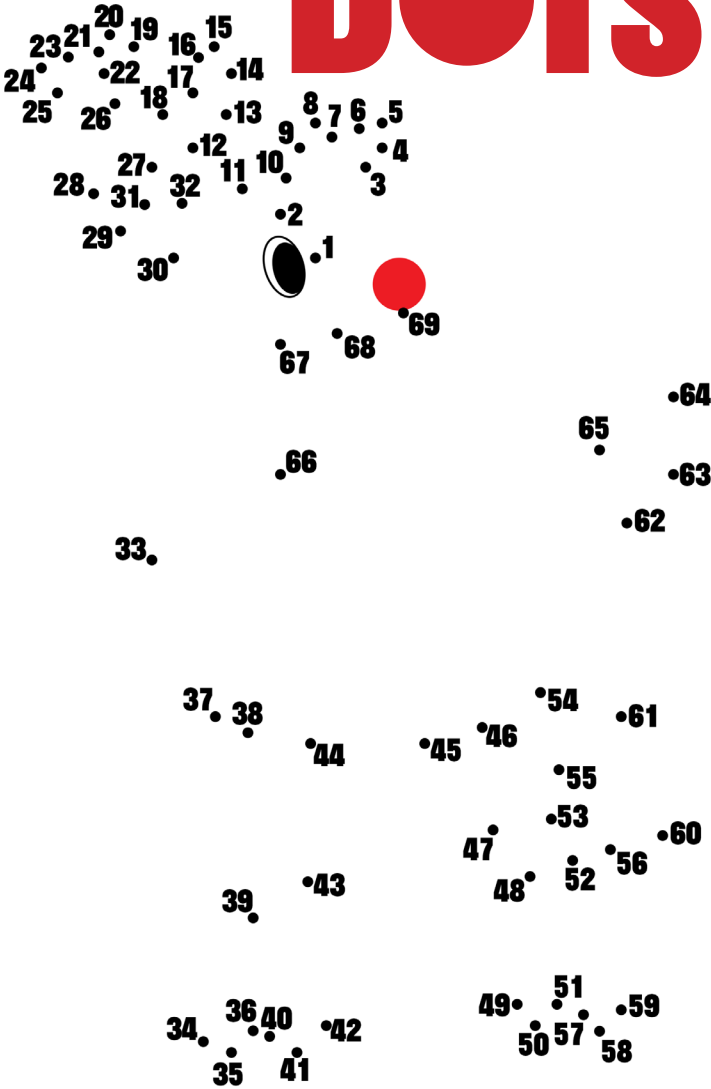
#CWUHYPE



GET THE PEPPERMINT TO THE MOUTH



CONNECT THE DOTS



WAYS TO REUSE THE NEWSPAPER

USE AS WRAPPING PAPER

All you'll need is tape to wrap your gifts this holiday season. Using the newspaper as giftwrap is a great way to save some money and reduce waste!

MAKE SNOWFLAKES

1. Cut paper into a square
2. Fold diagonally at least twice, more if you're feeling wild!
3. Cut out shapes (triangles from the side is a good place to start)
4. Unfold and decorate!

MAKE A DRIEDEL

1. Fold a square paper diagonally twice and open up.
2. Hole punch the center
3. Fold in the corners to the center
4. Flip the paper and fold the corners into the center again
5. Flip to the other side again and write the Hebrew letters on the four squares.
6. Use your fingers to push the corners together to make it three-dimensional
7. Put a sharpened pencil through the hole from the top. Tape the top part to the pencil to secure it.
8. Use a stapler to secure the inner folds to to pencil. Add tape as needed to secure it.
9. Gently push in the squares with the Hebrew letters written on them
10. Have fun and play!